PHILIPPINE DAILY
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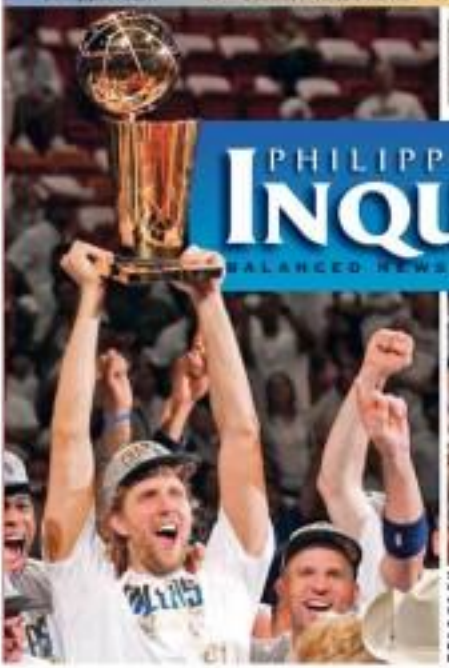

SWEET REVENGE Dallas Mavericks' Dirk Nowitzki lifts the Larry O'Brien Championship Trophy as his team celebrates its victory over Miami Heat in Game 6 to win the NBA Finals in Miami on Sunday. In 2006, the Heat beat the Mavericks in six games. At right, Miami Heat's LeBron James (top) hugs teammate Dwyane Wade after their loss to the Mavericks. The loss spoiled what would have been a historic year for Filipino-American Miami Heat head coach Erik Spoelstra. (See story in Sports, Page B22) REUTERS

Broadcaster shot dead; 6th under P-Noy

By Sitrea M. Barcarola
Inquirer Southern Luzon

DAGA, CITY—A gunman shot dead a radio commentator early yesterday while he was driving his motorcycle on his way to work, police said.

Romeo Olea, 49, of Brgy. Phil-Isan in Sitio town, just outside Iriga City, was the tenth media person killed under Presidential Aquino's watch and the 157th since martial rule was restored in 1986, according to the National Union of Journalists of the Philippines (NUJP).

Malacañang condemned the killing. "Mr. Olea was a crusading journalist... who exposed irregularities, but valuable he had been receiving threats in his

BROADCASTER A3

Coral poachers flee PH

Name game: PH now calls Spratly isle 'Recto Bank'

By Norman Bordadora and Ruben Carvajal
Inquirer Central Luzon

WHAT'S IN A NAME? In territorial disputes, probably the next best weapon you can deploy, especially if you lack an ships.

Malacañang seems bent on placing the name game to assert Philippine sovereignty over disputed areas and the archipelago, the first concerning an island

VIETNAM A11

Vietnam holds live-fire naval drill amid China spat

A20

'SPRATLY'S OURS' A Vietnamese protester holds up a placard asserting Vietnam's claim over the Spratly and Paracel islands during an anti-China demonstration in Hanoi on Sunday AFP

3 US warships join war games

THREE American warships and four Philippine Navy vessels will take part in naval training exercises between the Philippines and the United States to be held June 20-July 8 in the Subic Bay.

The Philippine Navy said holding this year's Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (Carat) exercise in the western part of Palawan province had been arranged before the renewed conflict with China over the disputed Spratly Islands in the West Philippine Sea.

"It had been planned before-hand," said Lt. Col. Omar Torres, the Navy spokesperson.

"It's been going on for more than 10 years now ... Last year it was held in the Zambales area; this year in the Palawan area, next year it will be in the Zamboanga area," Torres added, explaining that the

A20 WARSHIPS A20

JPE wants Zambo prosecutors fired

By TJ Burgonio

SENATE PRESIDENT Juan Ponce Enrile yesterday demanded the sacking of two prosecutors for sitting on criminal cases against a Chinese trader and his wife who have fled the country after being tagged in a foiled attempt to smuggle P35 million worth of black corals.

Enrile also directed the Department of Justice to seek the extradition of Li Fu Ming, alias Joe Peng, and his Filipina wife, Vivien Li, who reportedly escaped before authorities could place them on an immigration hold-departure order.

At the resumption of the Senate hearing on the smuggling attempt, Enrile thrashed Zambo prosecutors Alfredo Jimenez Jr. and Glenda Bernabe for delaying the resolution of preliminary investigation against the Li couple.

Enrile called the prosecutors inept and asked for their resignations, even as he recommended that the justice department take over the investigation of the cases against the couple.

"They have to be brought here to answer charges[.] We've got to be satisfied with filing a case. We send a contempt," he said.

Customs agents seized a P35-million cargo of black corals, sea shells and stuffed green sea turtles that arrived at the Manila port on May 3 from Cambodia. The shipment was falsely declared to have been prepared at Shwe Dali, were bound for either Ca-

CORAL A6

US approves Michael Ray's extradition

By Marlon Ramos

THE US Department of State has given the green light to the extradition of Michael Ray Aquino, a prime suspect in the Hacienda Binalbagan double murder case, offering hope to prosecutors who suffered a major blow early this year when a court ruling put his successful and former boss, Sen. Panfilo Lacson, off the hook.

Aquino may be brought out of detention in New Jersey and flown back to the country as early as July 3, according to the US agency.

Justice Secretary Leila de Lima described Aquino's return to the Philippines as a step closer toward finding a closure to the November 2000 killing of public relations expert Salvador "Bubby" Dacer and his driver Emmanuel Corbito.

"With the former police superintendent back in government hands, the Department of Justice can start a reinvestigation of the main slayings," De Lima said

A7 AQUINO A7

CDN/Cebu News on iPhone and Bandera on Apple's iPad join the digital edition roster.

CDN, Bandera now on iPad, Android

By JP Rubio
Director, Inquirer Mobile

THE PHILIPPINE Daily Inquirer's sister titles have joined the party.

Now added to the Inquirer Digital Edition (http://bit.ly/InquirerDigital) for iPads, iPhones, iPod Touch devices and Android tablets and smartphones are the Inquirer's regional paper Cebu Daily News (CDN) and national tabloid Bandera.

The addition marks the first time the full content of both Inquirer titles has been made completely available online to Inquirer.net subscribers and overseas readers.

"The addition of Cebu Daily News and Bandera to the Inquirer Group's menu of digital editions is part of our efforts to evolve print into strong multimedia

ITEM BANDERA A11

Second FRONTPAGE

WEATHER FORECAST

Baguio	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
Laoag	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
Cloud Zone	Partly Cloudy	Rain / Thunder
Tagaytay	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Legaspi	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Iloilo	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Bacolod	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Cebu	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Tacloban	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Davao	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Cagayan de Oro	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain
Zamboanga	Mostly Cloudy	Cloudy with Rain

6/13/11

6/13/11	20 15
6/12/11	13 8
6/11/11	14 7

SUERTRES

6/13/11	0 2 3
6/12/11	4 5 2
6/11/11	0 0 8

FOUR DIGIT

8 4 2 0

MEGALOTTO 6/45

15 16 27 30 33 37

P4,500,000.00

SUPER GRAND LOTTO 6/49

20 30 37 40 53 54

P30,000,000.00

(LOTTO "DWT Ran ON LOTTO, send to 4467. P2.50/text)

P-Noy vow a tall order, say bishops

By Jocelyn R. Uy

A GRAFT-FREE Philippines in the next five years may be a "tall order" but for it to be possible, President Aquino must learn to fire his friends in the government service who are found to be in error and select more competent officials, according to several Catholic bishops.

Catholic prelates from across the country yesterday expressed doubts about President Aquino's vow made in his first Independence Day speech urging to deliver the nation from corruption and poverty before he steps down in 2016.

The bishops said that a 50-percent reduction in poverty numbers in the next five years would be more achievable.

"That's a tall order. It's more prone to conspiracy," said Bagnio Bishop Carlito Cenzon over DZRH-AM radio Monday morning.

For his Manila counterpart Bishop Socrates Villegas, "that's not reasonable," referring to Mr. Aquino's promise of a country free from corruption.

"Maybe a 10-percent poverty reduction in five years" [was more realistic], Cubao's said also over Radio Veritas.

The Manila prelate said the President must first eliminate graft and corruption in government offices, particularly in the largest revenue-collecting agencies like the Bureau of Internal Revenue and Bureau of Customs, to fulfill his promise.

"He should fire and not protect his friends if [they are found guilty] of wrongdoing... he must also select competent officials," stressed Archeliza.

Antipolo Auxiliary Bishop Francisco Leo Louis Ocampo, meanwhile, urged that the Philippines would be free from poverty and corruption if the President does not spare his friends whom he appointed to the government.

"Talk is different from action, I want to see his actions," added Father Louie, also over Radio Veritas.

Last week, the minority in Congress demanded that the President's "kaibigan, kaklase and kabarilan" (pals) status, classmates and shooting buddies have a compromised investigation for alleged offenses, of no. 396. Aquino supposedly chose to ignore the cases his friends were facing.

They include Land Transportation Office chief Virginia Torres, Mr. Aquino's shooting buddy who was recommended for dismissal by the Department of Justice for interfering in the Garci-Comelec censorship dispute.

Another close friend of the President, Interior Undersecretary Rico Puno, had been recommended to be charged for the botched Hostage Bank hostage rescue last year, while Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima had been accused of tax evasion but he has since been cleared.

Cubao Bishop Honesto Ongtioco stressed that curbing graft and corruption in the country would not be easy and that it could not be carried out by only one man.

"We must help each other [and] we are also hoping that President Aquino would give assurance to the feedback and reflections of the people from various sectors of society to achieve his promise," said Ongtioco.

PAL service reps quit; other workers buck outsourcing

By Paolo G. Montecillo

A STRING of resignations has hit Philippine Airlines (PAL), forcing the Lucio Tan-led flag carrier to hire about 600 new customer service agents (CSA) to man check-in counters at local airports.

This comes amid an ongoing labor dispute that has stalled PAL's plan to outsource most of its ground services.

"The flag carrier intends to directly hire 600 CSAs to man check-in counters and do other ground duty. They would replace CSAs who had either resigned or were placed abroad," said PAL spokesperson Cielo Villaluna in a statement.

"To avoid inconvenience to our passengers in terms of longer queues and waiting times, PAL management has started processing applications for CSAs," she said.

Villaluna said PAL management's original proposal was to temporarily engage the services of Share-Asia Corp. for six months just to fill the employee gap. Management is an existing service provider also owned by Lucio Tan.

"But since the union opposed this, management decided that it would hire employees directly to end the debate," she said.

Rehire former employees

The PAL Employees Association (Palea), which represents PAL ground workers or about half of the airline's work force, said it opposed the idea since hiring MacoAsia would be tantamount to outsourcing their jobs—which the union opposed.

"We opposed the plan but allowed to help in rehiring former PAL employees, and recalling workers who were not hired due to a hiring freeze implemented last year," said Palea president Jerry Rivera in a statement.

On June 9, Palea said it had submitted a partial list of people interested in the position of customer service agents.

The union said it took offense at PAL's proposal to hire Manpower, which Palea considers to be a "backdoor implementation" of PAL's controversial outsourcing plan.

Palace, DOLE approved plan

PAL's outsourcing plan was earlier approved by the Department of Labor and Employment and the Office of the President on the legal premise of a "management prerogative" meant to cut costs. The decision is currently under appeal.

"PAL management is hoping for a speedy resolution of the outsourcing issue. The longer it drags, the more our workers are disenchanted and forced to seek greener pastures. Thus, for the sake of our workers who seem to perennially move on and for the convenience of thousands of passengers, we hope Malacañang would decide with finality on the outsourcing issue," Villaluna said.

Palea members yesterday took to the streets to protest what they considered "tax evasion" of the labor dispute at PAL.

The memorandum, consisting of some 30 motorcycles and 10 cars started at PAL's Ninoy Aquino International Airport Terminal 2 where the Manila-bound flier is located.

The Philippine Airlines' heavy traffic in the area for some 30 minutes to the chagrin of motorists, which Rivera said was most intentional.

Rivera said the union and PAL management have not yet reached an agreement on the temporary outsourcing arrangements set for June 16.

"We are ready to defend our jobs and the union if PAL does not back down from displacing contractual workers. We will be vigilant until there is a firm commitment for direct hiring instead of temporary outsourcing," he said. With reports from Julie M. Aurelio and Philip C. Tubeza

Boycott-China products call has no takers

By Norman Bordadora and Jerry E. Esplanada

MALACAÑANG yesterday dismissed a call by a civil society group led by Albay Gov. Joey Salceda that urged Filipinos to boycott Chinese-made products to send a strong signal regarding Beijing's "bullying" in connection with the dispute over the Spratly Islands, or in Malacañang's term, Tawi-Philippine Sea.

"We respect his opinion but, again, let me state that this is not the administration's policy," Presidential Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda said yesterday.

"We have a healthy trade with the People's Republic of China so it's not something that we could immediately call for without consequences on our part and as well as their part," Lacierda said.

Lacierda added, "Our counterthought is that we are going for a peaceful resolution on the conflict in the West Philippine Sea."

A senior Philippine diplomat said the Department of Foreign Affairs (DFA) would not endorse Salceda's proposal.

But the DFA source, who asked not to be named, added, "Bodbod is not subject to it so it is a legitimate expression of the sentiments felt by many Filipinos."

On Sunday, Salceda said in his Independence Day speech in the province's hall in Legazpi City: "Let us boycott Made in China products. Let us not buy from where it comes."

By act buying Chinese, the former economic adviser during the Arroyo administration added, "we also protect our children and communities from the parasites and persistent echo of centuries-aged of contamination and poor quality of their products."

For its part, a militant group said it believed that Salceda needed a "larger, major reality check" for calling on Filipinos to boycott Chinese products over the dispute.

Terry Ridon, chair of the League of Filipino Students (LFS), called Salceda's call an "unrealistic proposition."

"It would essentially render most of us naked with respect to clothing and so appliances at home and in the workplace," he said.

The LFS leader also said he was "betting my bottom peso that every [Salceda's] office outside came to function in such a haven."

Rejan Mario party-list Rep. Neri Colmenares said, "a boycott of Chinese products can not have effect in China now will not help quell the rising tension in the Spratlys."

"On the contrary, it will only aggravate the situation. If China retaliates, it may result in thousands of our overseas Filipino workers in China being harassed," Colmenares added.

Ridon, if Filipinos should still buy Chinese goods despite the Chinese's encroachment, Lacierda replied, "I think we have an investment in the trade between China and the Philippines and it is not something we can easily dismiss."

Lacierda said that the economical ties between the Philippines and China might have prompted a comparison of investment among Filipinos but contented against resulting to the controversy surrounding it.

"Anecdotally, we have seen [a rise] of nationalism. We have to be very buoyed in our response. We have to look at the issue from the whole perspective, not just from the point of trying to be nationalistic out of reaction," Lacierda said.

Lacierda said he doubted that the issue would provoke hatred for Chinese and Filipino-Chinese. "We're sure that among the southeast Asian nations, we have not experienced any form of xenophobia in our country," he said.

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A CALL TO THE PRESIDENT

This is a call to the President coming from an elderly whose family's business pride has been smeared by the incumbent head of the Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG).

In 1991, the administration of the late President Corazon C. Aquino, through then DILG Secretary Rafael Alunan, urged the Filipino Inventor's Society (FIS) to help and work hand-in-hand with the government. FIS accepted and a Memorandum of Agreement, which is still enforceable, was entered into. One of the FIS members who rose to the occasion was my late husband, internationally acclaimed and multi-awarded Filipino Inventor Alfredo Moreno Anos, Sr., a two-time World Intellectual Property Organization gold awardee. He devoted his time and energy, saved the government from research and development cost, and personally shouldered the necessary expenses in order to develop the first-ever Filipino Fire Truck, the Anos Fire Truck. Since then, Anos Research Manufacturing (ARM), the entity carrying the Anos Fire Truck, has been manufacturing and innovating brand-new Filipino fire trucks utilizing Filipino ingenuity and Filipino labor, thus, contributing and playing a respectable role in the Philippine fire truck industry and economy.

As a Filipino avidly guided with moral and Christian principles and discipline, ARM develops and innovates its fire trucks purposely to cater to the needs of the Filipinos and taking into consideration the conditions of fire incidents and community terrain in the Philippines. As an inventor, ARM continuously utilizes novel concepts and ideas of fire trucks with intellectual property rights over eleven utility model designs, eight industrial designs, two copyrights and two trademarks. As a manufacturer, ARM produces fire trucks with specifications custom-built to the needs of the procuring entity. As a proud maker of quality fire trucks, ARM extends unparalleled after-sales services with lifetime free service warranty with two manufacturing plants and more than 100 service stations. It is the only fire truck player in the Philippines which provides manufacturer's warranty to each and all major components of fire trucks, like the cab and chassis, the water/foam tank, the fire pump, and the foam system.

ARM has established its place in the local fire truck industry after two decades of hard work and track record based on quality workmanship and integrity. In an instant, however, the name and reputation, which my family has painstakingly built for twenty years, including the name of FIS, which is the society from which ARM belongs, is suddenly perilled because of unwarranted public criticisms coming from the highest official of DILG, the same office which made a partnership pact with inventors. Secretary Jesse Robredo made public statements that subsequent procurement of fire trucks by the government shall be imported ones because the locally made fire trucks manufactured by ARM allegedly displayed poor performance and are much expensive. These were made without prior conference.

Let the President and the public know that these statements are unfair as they are baseless. For those delivered to the BFP, the Anos fire trucks were manufactured based on technical specifications required by BFP after approval thereof by DILG. Note that BFP has even issued a certification that ARM has complied with the technical specifications and standards of BFP. In other words, ARM merely complied with the required technical specifications, such that, if said technical specifications produced lesser output, then much higher specifications should have been required from ARM so the latter could comply accordingly and not to put the blame on ARM. It is believed, though, that the technical specifications required from ARM was a product of a thorough study and wide consultations, bearing in mind the suggestions of all stakeholders, the needs of the Filipinos and the fire conditions/terrains in our country.

It has to be stressed that ARM's dealings with the BFP, including its direct contracting mode of procurement with the government as a holder of proprietary rights and the price of its fire trucks, have withstood the watchful eyes and investigations of both Congress and the Office of the Ombudsman. To criticize ARM's fire trucks in public in order to justify the procurement of imported fire trucks is simply revolting. It is emphasized that ARM has not been officially notified by BFP or DILG of any complaint involving the alleged poor performance of its fire trucks. ARM learned this for the first time from the media. For this, the public has to know that ARM has never refused any complaint for repairs or any request for after sales service. ARM has always been true to its warranties; in fact, ARM even replaces and upgrades major parts for free whenever warranted. Finally, BFP and DILG knew all along that ARM's manufacturing plants are always open for service, inspection and testing.

Secretary Robredo has been pushing for the acquisition of imported fire trucks. With the 6.2 million pesos per unit price he is espousing, which does not find support from the independent assessment of BFP and from the findings of the 14th Congress of the Philippines, and contrary to the actual fair market value now prevailing, bearing in mind the technical specifications required, he may be eyeing for poor quality fire trucks from a foreign country and/or reconditioned imported fire trucks. At any rate, opting for imported fire trucks is an anti-Filipino action which blatantly violates the "Filipino First Policy" enshrined in our fundamental law and related statutes and government issuances such as Article II Section 19, Article XII Section 12, Article XIV Section 10, and Article XIV Section 13 of "The 1987 Constitution", Republic Act No. 9184 otherwise known as "The Government Procurement Reform Act of 2003", Commonwealth Act No. 138 otherwise known as "The Flag Law", the annual "General Appropriations Act", R.A. No. 8293 otherwise known as "The Intellectual Property Code of the Philippines", R.A. No. 7459 otherwise known as "The Inventors and Invention Incentives Act of the Philippines", Book VI, Section 78 of "The Revised Administrative Code of The Philippines", Section 1 of "Administrative Order No. 227" dated May 27, 2008 and Cabinet Action/Decision Memorandum – NEDA dated April 20, 2010. This policy was also made clear by the Honorable Supreme Court in Manila Prince Hotel versus GSIS, et. al., G.R. No. 122156, February 3, 1997.

Mr. President, I am an 83-year-old widow and what is left to me in this world is the pride my late husband and my family have cultivated all through the years in establishing our name in the field of the Philippine fire truck industry. It brings too much pain to an old woman to have this pride shattered. I have no political means to stand against a cabinet secretary. What I have by my side, though, are ARM's vision of quality service, our national laws, the Filipino Inventors Society, a free speech to hear my elderly voice, and with God's grace, a President to protect me and the local fire truck industry.

Lastly, it is both a legal and moral obligation to direct the government fire truck procurement thrust in the right direction where Filipinos, Filipino inventors and Philippine goods are preferred and not prejudiced.

Thank you very much.

TEOFISTA A. ANOS
President

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JAMAGIN Luceno (in left photo) and Albert Bayentin (at right) receive plaques of recognition from Manila International Airport Authority Senior Assistant General Manager Antonio Bautista for their honesty

'Honesty its own reward'

By Julie M. Aurelio

TWO PORTERS at the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (NAIA) have been rewarded by management after they turned over a bag containing two expensive cameras they found on a baggage trolley last month.

Jamagin Luceno and Albert Bayentin said the saying "Broken keepers" never occurred to them.

"Besides, I have a dignity at home, even if it's cheap. The cameras we found were not ours to keep," said Luceno, 36, who with Bayentin works in Nole Terminal 3.

The two, who happen to be good friends, waited for the owner to come around looking for the bag which was dangling from the trolley's handle.

After some time had passed and still no one had come by to claim it, Bayentin and Luceno brought the bag to the airport lost and found unit.

The bag, which had the name Sony on it, held a Sony digital single-lens reflex (DSLR) camera and a video camera.

"We know the bag contained a camera because it had Sony markings on it, but we didn't think it would have two cameras inside," Bayentin, 33, said in an interview.

Porters for those years, they earn the basic wage of about P14,000 a month. The cheapest video cameras in the market cost around P20,000, while DSLRs cost from P30,000 to P40,000.

For their honesty, the two, who are contractual employees, were presented plaques of recognition last week by the Naia management.

The bag contained a contact number and the address of the owner which made it easier to reach her/them.

It turned out she was a University of the Philippines professor who had left the bag behind that early morning of May 10.

"The Naia 3 management just told us the owner had claimed it. We don't mind not having met the person or not getting a reward. It was our job," Bayentin said.

"I believe in karma. I was brought up to remember I shouldn't keep things which don't belong to me," he added.

Luceno said he would always return lost items, even money, adding: "It's better to have good karma than have bad things happen."

For the two, the plaques of recognition were reward enough.

"Mine hangs in the living room, in a frame. I feel good whenever I pass by it. I'm happy that I did something right," Bayentin said.

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WE STAND BY THE TRUTH

Allegations that the current PCSO Board of Directors recently made against the immediate past Board are not true.

In the history of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office (PCSO), it was during the stint of the former PCSO Board of Directors, when PCSO sales revenues rose to their highest level ever - across more than Php 26 billion. In the Individual Medical Assistance Program (IMAP) alone, since it started in 1995, PCSO has served more than 580,000 indigent patients, two-thirds of these patients or 67% were served during the administration of President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo.

Not true: The PCSO was bankrupt at the end of the Arroyo administration.

The truth is on June 29, 2010 at 4:00 PM, at the last meeting of the outgoing Board, PCSO had in the bank Php 3,368,694,345.35 (billion) including US$ 5,944,716.96 (million). PCSO assets included 1.1 hectares of prime land in San Marcelino, Manila valued at almost Php1 billion, land in Antipolo, Taytay and Valenzuela, computers, Management Information Systems equipment, and unused thermal paper/bet slips inventory, among others.

The truth is accounts payable to hospitals was around Php1 billion. However, it was not paid because the Commission on Audit (COA) does not allow payments for unliquidated billings or lacking documents (Note: most of the payables were incurred during the past administrations before us).

Not true: Charity funds were used for Public Relations (PR).

The truth is PR Fund is part of the 15% Operations Fund mandated by the PCSO Charter. Multimedia advertisements and Television (30% of PR Fund) were proven effective in attracting the public to put money on PCSO gaming products. This is borne out by the dollar-deep high sales revenue at the time of the immediate past Board.

The truth is 30% of sales revenue allocated to Charity Fund was not in any instance used for any expense other than for charity.

Not true: Funds for charity, operations, and prizes are lumped together in one expense account.

The truth is Charity Fund, Operations Fund, and Prize Fund are expense accounts, each with separate set of accounting books.

The truth is the immediate past General Manager required the PCSO Treasury Department to submit a daily report on the status of fund or the cash position of PCSO.

The truth is the Commission on Audit (COA) regularly conducted spot cash audit is the eyes of PCSO department.

Not true: An onerous contract with Philippine Gaming Management Corporation (PGMC) on lotto machines.

The truth is the lease agreement is the most favorable option the PCSO. Fast changes in technology speeds up machine obsolescence. Frequent purchases of modern machines will be highly expensive for PCSO.

The truth is the initial contract was signed at the time when the U.S. dollar-peso exchange rate was $1- Php25 whereas, the succeeding contract was signed when the exchange rate was $1- Php55++. In addition, the succeeding contract provided for new Php2 billion investment by PGMC in modern gaming machines, and the maintenance and speeding up of integration of telecommunication systems that will result in faster opening of many new lotto outlets that will in turn result to increases in lotto revenue.

The truth is PCSO did not spend a single centavo to realize improvements in lotto infrastructure and increase in revenue.

The truth is the PCSO-PGMC contract was subjected to almost two years of rigorous legal study and scrutiny by the Office of the Government Corporate Counsel (OGCC), Makati Regional Trial Court, and the Intended Star of the Philippines (ISP) Arbitral Tribunal before it could take effect.

Not true: Small Town Lottery (STL) not monitored.

The truth is PCSO regularly does its best to know how the situation can be improved and to find the right formula to ensure that STL continues as to become a regular gaming product of PCSO.

The truth is even at its experimental stage managed by the immediate past Board of Directors, STL by May 2010 had brought in more than Php7.786 billion. In comparison, STL only generated around Php 8 million when it was first launched and implemented.

Not true: Limitation of charity assistance is Php 20,000 to each beneficiary in 2007.

The truth is, to increase the impact of assistance to every beneficiary, PCSO charity desks started to give Php 20,000 to each beneficiary who came to the Head Office and to all 20 PCSO District Offices. Requested assistance if more than Php 20,000 was referred to the Senior Administrator's Office, if more than Php 500,000, to the Chairman's Office, and if more than Php 1 million, to the Board of Directors. An average assistance of Php 41,115 was given per patient in 2001-2008. Total assistance directly provided in the same period was Php 6.74 billion.

Not true: Exemption in lotto daily remittance.

The truth is regular remittance was required. Interest was charged on irregular remittance and non-remittance.

The truth is no irregular remittance was a basis for cancellation of contract with lotto outlet.

Not true: Instant sweepstakes project will not be good for PCSO and is against the PCSO Charter.

The truth is instant sweepstakes is the modern sweepstakes that saved the day for the dying traditional sweepstakes. All printed tickets were on a consolidated as-sold basis.

Not true: Illegality of 30 years Joint Venture Agreement with TMA Group of Companies Phil. Limited, as Australian firm.

The truth is the Joint Venture Agreement with TMA was subjected to all the necessary legal procedures and provisions, including the 58 years that is the lifespan of a corporation under Philippine laws.

The truth is the PCSO-TMA contract is subject to continuous periodic review, to be monitored by independent auditors, and does not prohibit the dissolution of the corporation if its actions are found unfavorable to PCSO.

The truth is the PCSO-TMA contract provides that PCSO will not be held liable for compensatory obligation in case the joint venture fails.

The immediate past Board of Directors, when we started our work, came upon an operating system that ran PCSO for more than 65 years. We firmly believed that the PCSO operational systems could be developed further. We gradually streamlined the system, and made it more suitable to the current needs of institutions and beneficiaries that PCSO serve. We tirelessly aimed at bringing PCSO up to par with notable local and international charity institutions.

A holistic and streamlined approach was adopted to make service to poor Filipinos more effective and immediate – this we believe is the real essence of the existence of the Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office.

Thank you for your attentiveness to us who speak **the truth.**

Sergio O. Valencia
Former PCSO Chairman

Rosario C. Uriarte
Former PCSO General Manager

Former PCSO Director

Former PCSO Director

Manuel L. Morán
Former PCSO Director

PAGASA'Y

Palace: P-Noy will reappoint Brillantes

By Norman Bordadora

MALACAÑANG is going to reappoint Jose Brillantes chairman of the Commission on Elections (Comelec) after he was bypassed by the Commission on Appointments last before Congress adjourned earlier this month.

Citing statements by Executive Secretary Paquito Ochoa, Deputy Presidential Spokesperson Abigail Valte made the announcement in a text message to reporters earlier this afternoon.

At this stage, Malacañang expressed concern over the reported appointment of Brillantes to regional director in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (ARMM).

Brillantes was one of the Comelec heads who figured in the "Hello Garci" scandal involving wiretapped conversations allegedly between former President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo and former Comelec Commissioner Virgilio Garcillano.

In the tapes, in two separate supposedly brief talking Garcillano about her vote margin in Mindanao in the 2004 presidential election, which is illegal.

"Well, if that's true (Senate president's appointment), certainly it's a concern for us," said Press Secretary Spokesperson Edwin Lacierda during Monday's press briefing in Malacañang.

He was hoping we have postponed the elections in the ARMM and, as we have already stated, we support the Senate (Commission) and we would hope that the Comelec would do its part in electoral reforms in the ARMM elections," he said.

Maintaining automatically pushed for postponement of the ARMM elections supposedly to instead undertake reforms in the region and to synchronize the regional polls with the 2013 national elections.

President Aquino has assigned the task of coming up with the guidelines for the appointive interim leaders of the ARMM to Interior Secretary Jesse Robredo, Presidential Adviser on Political Affairs Ronald Llamas and Presidential Adviser on the Peace Process Teresita Deles.

"I spoke to Secretary Ding Deles about it. But you know, that is the point (where) whether or in the executive branch are concerned about the continued presence of Mr. Brillantes in the ARMM, the Comelec is separate and independent from the executive," Lacierda said.

The matters of Comelec officials that figured in the Hello Garci scandal still remaining at the poll agency are one of the issues Sen. Alan Peter Cayetano raised against Brillantes during the confirmation hearings in the Commission on Appointments.

Campaign funds reform on the way in Comelec

By Philip C. Tubeza

THE COMMISSION on Elections (Comelec) is planning to introduce campaign finance reforms in the country by creating an office that would validate the campaign contributions and expenditures of candidates.

It has even invited a high-ranking official of the US Federal Election Commission (FEC) to help draw them the way.

Comelec Commissioner Robert Lim said the "campaign finance department" would scrutinize the statements of campaign contributions and expenditures of the candidates in the 2013 midterm elections.

"As of now, the capability of the Comelec is limited to determining whether the candidates have filed their statements of contributions and expenditures. We want to expand it to see if they are telling the truthfulness of their statements," Lim told a press briefing recently.

He said a bill has been filed in Congress calling for the creation of a permanent department on campaign finance in the Comelec.

To help the Comelec, which serving candidates, Commissioner Elton Wenzel Sale of The US FEC recently conducted a workshop with Comelec officials.

"She's here to help and share her knowledge to enhancing campaign finance in the United States. We hope we can learn from her so we can also enhance campaign finance in the Philippines," said Lim.

Corrections

BETHLEHEM (1) ISSUE, a front-page story—"Pacquiao removed Reuben Parik businessman"—erroneously identified the architect in charge of the renovation of Manny Pacquiao's new home in Brod's Forbes, Makati City. The architect is Elia Sotiquian—not Antonio Bautista.

The same story mistakenly the name of the street on which Pacquiao's new home is located. The house is on Cambridge Circle—not Cambridge Street.

Readers may notify their corrections for the attention of Rachel Gonzales at the Rm. 1106, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 185 Salcedo, Cities Business Center, Makati City, fax No. 897-4743-98, e-mail address: inquirer@inquirer.com.ph.

Complaints about lack of fair news or opinion may be sent to the Reader's Advocate, Jullian Jaramillo, at the Rm. 807-A, 807-A, 8th Floor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, 185 Salcedo Street, Legaspi Village, Makati City, fax No. 897-4743-98, e-mail address: inquirer@inquirer.com.ph or call the Reader's Advocate at 897-0000 local 300.

The Daily Gospel

Week 10 (Tuesday)
Feastday: Weekday
11th Week in Ordinary Time
Ps 146:2, 5-6ab, 6c-7, 8-9
Praise the Lord, my soul!

1st Reading: 2 Cor 8: 1-9

Now I want you to know about a gift of divine grace among the churches of Macedonia. While they were in affliction and poverty, their joy overflowed and their extreme poverty turned into a wealth of generosity. According to their means—even beyond their means—they insisted on their wholehearted free action.

They asked us for the favor of participating in and with much insistence and, far beyond anything we expected, they put themselves at the disposal of the Lord and of us by the will of God. Accordingly, I urged Titus to complete among you this work of grace since he began it with you. You excel in everything: in the gifts of faith, speech and knowledge, you excel in unstinting every earnest, and, besides, you have their many hearts! Excel also in this generous service.

This is not a command, I make known to you the determination of others to check the sincerity of your fraternal love. You know well the generosity of Christ Jesus, our Lord. Although he was rich, he made himself poor to make you rich through his poverty.

Gospel: Mt 5: 43-48

Jesus said to his disciples, "You have heard that it was said: love your neighbor and hate the one who hates you. But I tell you: Love your enemies, and prayerful those who persecute you, so that you may be children of your Father in heaven. For he makes his sun rise on the bad and the good, and he lets rain on the just and the unjust.

"If you love those who love you, what is special about that? Do not even tax collectors do as much? And if you are friendly only to your friends, what is special about that? Even pagans do as much! Be perfect, then, as your heavenly Father is perfect."

Reflection:

"Love thy enemies? Has a crazy father" you will say, and tell me examples of my folly. But I insist! Be generous to your enemies, otherwise consider "unworthy" of your love and affection that life as you deserve but. Be sure. When we love our enemies, we become more like that Father who made us in his own image. By the love of God acquired in us beyond concern for self, we become more worthy of responsibility. Christian witness has consequences. God needs us to come to love us. Be simply does. Be able to care for persons love is always easy, unmanageable, exaggerated and calling out.

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Pocket protests mark opening of college classes

By Niko Calleja

MANILA, Not scattered protests greeted the opening of classes for colleges and state universities yesterday as youth groups expressed outrage over what they see as an education crisis worse than the previous administration.

"The situation is worse now than during the term of former President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo," Chairlou Bañez, secretary general of militant youth group Anakbayan, said.

While classes began, Bañez said eight million youth were not in school, mainly because they cannot afford the rising tuition and other fees.

Leading a rally of around 30 placard-carrying students in front of the Commission on Higher Education (CHED) offices on Monday morning, Bañez said the budget allocated by the national government for education decreased from 15 percent of the national budget in 2010 to 11 percent under the term of President Aquino.

"The state afforded the most by the budget cuts are the youth who depend solely on the state-run universities for their college education. For what do you expect them to do if tuition costs more than their family's income?" Bañez said.

Elsewhere, protests were staged at Polytechnic University of the Philippines, University of the Philippines in Diliman, Quezon City, and Philippine Normal University.

An out-of-school youth, Gopet Garcia, a 17 year-old high school graduate, says he cannot afford the tuition even at the city-run Quezon City Polytechnic University.

Joining the protests, Garcia said he took the entrance exam at QCPU in May but he was discouraged from attending the school upon learning that he needed to pay P8,000, including miscellaneous fees for the semester.

"We just could not afford it every semester... so I gave up," Garcia said. He was hoping to take a four-year information technology course after graduating from Lagro National High School in Quezon City.

The irregular jobs of his parents as a swimming pool cleaner and air-conditioning mechanic make it difficult for his family to make ends meet, he said.

Bañez said the likes of Garcia have nowhere to go because even education in the public schools was no longer accessible to them.

At the country's largest public university, Polytechnic University of the Philippines, its College of Technology has the highest tuition at P200 per unit, she said. A normal 30-unit load would cost a student P4,000.

According to CHED, more than 161 private colleges and universities are expected to raise tuition by an average of 30 percent this year.

REMEMBERING UNCLE

Liezel Nerves Ita Reyes, a great-granddaughter of national hero Jose Rizal's sister Concordia, views the commemorative stamps and other memorabilia of her illustrious ancestor that are on exhibit at the Philippine Postal Corp.'s Philatelic Office Building at Liwasang Bonifacio, Manila. This year marks the 150th anniversary of Rizal's birth on June 19. The exhibit will run until the end of the month. NINOY LAS / INQUIRER

DND exec tagged by Rabusa in plunder goes on leave

A DEPARTMENT of National Defense (DND) official has gone on leave after being implicated in the amended plunder complaint filed in the Department of Justice last week by former military budget officer Lt. Col. Lourdes Rabusa.

Assistant Secretary Ernesto Boac asked to go on an indefinite leave of absence without pay even before he could read Rabusa's 109-page complaint considering the "very critical" position that he holds.

Boac, a retired Army general, is the defense assistant secretary for comptrollership. He succeeds the DND fish-and-awards committee.

Defense Secretary Voltaire Gazmin, a former Army general himself, accepted Boac's offer last Friday, a DND spokesperson said.

"I think it's for the good of sec. Boac so he can attend to the case, defend himself and remove any doubts or any issues, especially because he holds very sensitive positions," undersecretary Edmund Love said.

He said Assistant Secretary Fernando Manalo for acquisitions, installations and logistics may replace Boac as assistant secretary for comptrollership.

When interviewed last Thursday, Boac said he was thinking either of resigning or taking an indefinite leave out of deference.

"I believe that grandmen dictates that I should not continue with my functions because of the very serious case filed against me and (the fact that) I'm holding a key position," he had said.

He denied Rabusa's charge that he had amassed P320 million when he was a military budget officer under the defunct Office of the Armed Forces of the Philippines General Chief of Staff for Comptrollership from 1986 to 1992.

Boac was appointed DND assistant secretary in August 2008, six months after he retired from the military service.

Rabusa, a former lieutenant colonel who served as military budget officer from 2000 to 2002, included Boac and four other persons in the amended plunder complaint.

Reina E. Pazzibugan

PDEA, jail bureau partner to fight drugs in prison

IN THE wake of reports of illicit drug activities behind bars, the Philippine Drug Enforcement Agency (PDEA) announced on Saturday the renewal of its partnership with the Bureau of Jail Management and Penology (BJMP) to curb the drug trade in prisons.

PDEA Director General Undersecretary Jose S. Gutierrez Jr. and BJMP Director Reynaldo M. Bial signed on Friday a memorandum of agreement to continue the collaboration between the two agencies.

"The new agreement intends to address the prevalence of illegal drug activities perpetrated by drug lords already in jails," PDEA said in a statement.

Under the previous agreement, the new MOA "shall be in full force for as long as there is a consensus between PDEA and BJMP to continue the agreement and until such time that one or both parties decide to terminate the MOA," Gutierrez said.

The previous three-year MOA between PDEA and BJMP expired in April.

Under the MOA, the PDEA and BJMP will share intelligence and pursue joint investigation efforts in the conduct of anti-drug operations in facilities under BJMP's jurisdiction.

PDEA, on the other hand, is authorized to conduct surprise inspections within jail premises in coordination with officials of BJMP.

The MOA likewise assures the speedy transfer of arrested drug suspects temporarily detained at the PDEA custodial facility to the appropriate jail in accordance with the law.

Justice Justice Secretary Leila de Lima revealed that drug activities were flourishing in the New Bilibid Prisons (NBP), which is under the control of the Bureau of Corrections, not the BJMP.

Citing information from sources, she also said that some drug kingpins in the NBP had been bribing jail officials P1 million to P5 million to endanger the lives of their rivals transferred to the drug penitentiaries. AP Rigo

E. Samar folk urged: Promote tourism, not mining

By Vivencio Libero
Inquirer Visayas

CATBALOGAN, Eastern Samar—A community here can benefit from its rich biodiversity by preserving environment and opposing mining, which will destroy the natural resources.

Environmentalist advocate Gina Lopez, managing director of MBS-CBN Foundation, made the observation when she addressed her Saturday evening chat with Catbalogan residents at the Eagle's Nest Hotel here which had for its theme: "What is Happening to our Beautiful Land?"

Lopez said she was "sad, scared" by what was happening on Manicani Island in Guiuan, which she visited that afternoon.

In the area, Lopez and her group climbed the mountain to reach a mineral-rich area. She saw the destruction wrought on the island by mining and how it affected the flow of the water from the mountain which caused sediments in the sea.

The water was already red-dish," she said.

Manicani Island, which can be reached by a 45-minute boat ride from Guiuan, has a total area of 1,500 hectares. It has four barangays—Buenavista, Basiao, San Jose and Hamorawan—and a population of about 2,000.

In 1945, the US Navy established a super ship repair base on Manicani. Today, open-pit mining has left an ugly gap in the middle of the island.

Speaking to an audience that included priests, nuns, lay leaders and local officials, Lopez said Eastern Samar was a very beautiful place that should be preserved.

Lopez warned that allowing mining would destroy those riches, which could never be recovered.

She urged Samareños to resist efforts to destroy the environment, adding that she could help them promote the province as a tourist destination.

"You may not have a lot of cash, but actually you are very rich [in biodiversity]," she said.

Nancy Badillo, of Barangay Buenavista, said she had been fighting mining on the island, which has been going on for over 20 years.

She said mining not only destroyed the island but deprived its inhabitants of their livelihood of fishing and farming.

"Siltation has killed and driven the fish further away from our island, and our families have to be replaced by crop lots," she said.

Manicani Island was first mined in 1969 by Hinabaan Mining Corp. (HMC) even before it got the mining rights in 1991, according to Badillo, a member of the Save Manicani Movement Organized.

Midsel is rumored from the island, which is used to shelter planting, storage and in the manufacture of stainless steel.

On May 3, 2011, the Mining and Geosciences Bureau (MGB) suspended HMC's operation after Inkandesi conducted.

Badillo said another is expect-Welded Iron Corp. also wants to remove coral from the island.

"The problem still mining firms is that they are taking advantage of our poverty. Then they leave us destroyed island," she said.

MGB Director Leo L. Jasmino said in a phone interview that HMC's operations remained suspended since 2002, when the business owner had the stop order under than Environment Secretary Heherson Alvarez.

MMC is a subsidiary of publicly listed miner Nickel Asia Corp. Jasmino said that to date HMC has not applied for a re-exploration operations.

Manotoks, Midsel Asia Corp. president and CEO Ernest R. Ortiga Jr. was off the country and was unavailable for comment. With a report from Ben T. Gil-Sandoy

Ex-Abra gov, 2 others face charges for holding taxes

By Lydia B. Salaverria

FORMER Abra Gov. Vicente Valera and two others are facing criminal charges in the Sandiganbayan for allegedly failing to remit to the government over P134 million in vehicle registration and transfer registered period.

Aside from Valera, ordered charged with all counts of violation of the Tax Reform Act were Former Abra provincial treasurer Ms. Victoria Villalobos-Aleagas and former provincial accountant Ms. Rhoda Marabella.

But the Office of the Ombudsman cleared three of technical malversation, saying that the withheld funds were not shown to have been used for another purpose. It said the funds, which the provincial government have been holding in trust, were intact.

The complaint against Valera and the others was filed by incumbent Abra Gov. Eustaquio Bersamin, who succeeded Valera.

Bersamin said he learned of the previous administration's failure to remit the taxes when, upon assuming office, he learned that the provincial government had a pending tax liability.

The Valeras and Bersamins are political rivals. Valera has been accused of being behind the killing of former Rep. Luis Bersamin and is awaiting trial.

In his defense, Valera said he could not be charged for non-remittance because his complaint did not jibe with participation. On official not be held committed in violation of the law.

Valera also said that if there were any uncounted taxes, that was just a lapse in administrative procedure and could not be considered a criminal liability.

He contended that the documents attached to the complaint were incomplete and just photocopies.

Marabella defended herself by saying that it was the provincial treasurer and not the accountant that should be held liable. She said it was Aleagas who failed to remit the money.

Aleagas, for her part, said Marabella had been late in preparing the disbursement vouchers for the withheld taxes, which she only received in March last for re-Abra province.

Aleagas said it would have been impossible for her to remit the taxes on the basis of the vouchers because they were not yet paid and to be disbursed by Marabella.

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CDN, Bandera now on iPad

From page A1

brands in order to deliver more value to readers," said Inter Aksyones vice president for corporate social responsibility Ilyn Ong.

Ong said the Philippine Digital Publishers Inc. (PPI), the business unit that publishes the two papers.

"We recognize that newspapers will continue to play a role in our lives as it is just a matter of making news and information available, not just on paper but on as many media platforms as possible. The digital edition gives us the opportunity to bundle our print with digital products and reach more consumers in an efficient way," Ilyn also added.

The digital edition of the papers combines the full, traditional print layout of CDN and Bandera—ads, photos, classified, columns, supplements are all available—with the interactive features of a website.

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Subscriptions for Cebu Daily News and Bandera are $1.50 a month and $16.99 annually. Quarterly ($3.50) and semi-annual ($10.99) plans are also available.

Free trial

A free 30-day trial subscription is available for each title. CDN digital subscribers can use the offer code CDNFREE30, while Bandera subscribers can use the offer code BANDERA30 when registering.

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As a special promo on the occasion of its September Sky, the Inquirer Digital Edition will also offer a free 30-day subscription to all available titles. Simply select "1 month free trial" when selecting a subscription plan.

"At first, we thought digital edition was just a breakdown thing and would never appeal to the 'mass' to which Bandera caters," said Dona Pelino, the tabloid's associate editor.

"On second thought, this new offer, at least for a tabloid like Bandera, could be an alternative choice for Pinoys abroad... those who terribly miss the news back home and lots of local show biz chika and columns written in Filipino," Pelino added.

How to subscribe

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CDN Daily News on Samsung's Galaxy Tab

Can Manila count on US

By TJ Burgonio

SOME senators yesterday condemned in separate desires that the United States would come to the aid of the Philippines if the ordeal over with China over the disputed Spratly Islands escalated.

Sen. Francis Pangilinan said: "Whether or not America sides with us is immaterial at this point. Besides, (re-)plotting US presidency in the past didn't bring us into the proverbial promise land."

Senate President Juan Ponce Enrile, for his part, said President Aquino would invoke the Philippine Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT) if the country were attacked by another country.

"Any attack against the forces of either the US or the Philippines in the treaty area will mean an attack against the parties of the (MDT)," Enrile told reporters.

He asked whether the Philippines could count on the US to fulfill its obligations in the treaty, he said: "Di ko (I don't) know. Can we count on them? I do not know. We know ask them, can we count on you? I don't know."

Malacañang has maintained that the Philippines would invoke the MDT as a cornerstone against any attack by a foreign country.

How death came it got?

Under the MDT, signed in Washington on Aug. 30, 1951, both countries declared their "sense of duty and common determination to defend themselves against external armed attack."

After warning Manila against taking unilateral actions on Spratlys, Chinese Ambassador Liu Jianchao called on diplomatic consultations to stop exploiting the idea of regulating resources in the area claimed by China.

Sen. Jinkee Sotto wondered why

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S in Spratlys row?

...ng was interpreting the US ... the MOU in relation to the ... dispute.
...ation of what they say America ... to its position. Meaning they ... conflict in territorial disputes," ... said in an interview.
...e wondered why Malacañang ...gency with US Embassy ...man on the issue. "We initially ...e arguing with them. How ...e we got?"
...said the Philippines could in... MOU if the Pacific Area from ...e US mainland were attacked ...was covered by the treaty.

...matic recall

...agreed with Bunye, however, ...ency did not provide automatic ...e by the United States against ...ing or invading country.
...k on any portion of the Spratlys is a different matter. In this case, the Philippines could invoke the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea for violation of the country's exclusive economic zone, Encila said.

Encila said Malacañang should study the MOU before invoking it.

"You can review it if the other party wants to review it. You cannot just say 'Oh let's review it.' You're dealing with a sovereign country and then second, you cannot unilaterally say giving them a notice of one year. If you want to terminate it but I don't advocate a termination of the MOU given our present condition," he said.

Since there is an shooting war yet, Bengzon said the Philippines could take care of itself.

"The chances of winning in a shooting war may be bleak but we will definitely not allow anyone to defeat us in a word war," he said in a text message.

US approves Michael Ray's extradition

From page 1

...ate announced the approval of the extradition to representatives Manila yesterday.

"Since Aquino is a key player in the case, I would hope that he will cooperate," the secretary said.

"I would hope that he will tell us if SECCT was really involved in the case," De Lima added, referring to the now-defunct Presidential Anti-Organized Crime Task Force which Lacanas, then chief of the Philippine National Police, headed during the Estrada administration.

Lacanas, who was also tagged as a prime suspect in the case could be was cleared by the Court of Appeals in February, said he is ...ared could direct Aquino and may help the Justice department refresh its case against him, even if prosecution is allowed towards.

"We has nothing to link me to the case," Lacanas said in a text message. "I don't think Aquino will succumb to pressure and for the sake of a comfortable life in the guise of lying heavily just ...

Lacanas, who went into hiding for 16 months before the appellate court junked an arrest warrant issued against him by the Manila Regional Trial Court, said Aquino's conditions as a "long shot coming."

"There ra Zenaida Ruiz. Aquino came and went it and he has been requesting his return to the country to have his day in court. Being a former majorico, I just hope that he will be accorded a fair trial and treatment, giving due consideration to his physical security when his place of detention is determined by the regional trial court handling his case," the senator said.

Hawaiian to be seen

De Lima conceded that Aquino's notoriety to help unmask the controversial behind the murders "remains to be seen" because he was a co-accused in the case.

"Of course, we want to know the truth because until now it's still unclear who was really the brains or the mastermind of this ...

MICHAEL Ray Aquino

...double-murder case," she said.

Unless his lawyers seek legal remedies, Aquino would be brought straight to the Manila City Jail from the airport "because he is an accused and by virtue of the warrant of arrest," De Lima said.

"But of ...course, we're not thinking of [giving him] special treatment," she added.

A step forward

Ferdinand Topacio, a lawyer for another ex-SECCT member and now government witness Cesar Mancao II, said Aquino's repatriation was "a step forward in the ultimate resolution" of the case.

"Aquino is a crucial piece in the puzzle. His return will make it legally possible for him to personally face the accusations against him in a court of law," Topacio said in a statement.

"We also hope that Aquino will not succumb to external pressures and influences for him to extend the investigation to his country and that he will help all concerned in the ...ual search for truth and justice," Topacio said.

'Good news'

Demetrio Custodio, a lawyer for Dacer's children, greeted Aquino's extradition as a piece of "good news" and "a step in the right direction."

"We await what he is going to say," Custodio said in a text message to the reporters.

But the lawyer admitted that it would be more difficult for prosecutors to again implicate Lacanas if Aquino would be "able to survive the extradition."

Aquino fled the country in July 2005, eight months after the murders and while the investigation was going on him, Lacanas, and other ex-SECCT members under the Arroyo administration.

'Delta' or 'Hero'

In an affidavit he issued while in detention in August last year, Aquino backed Lacanas's claim of innocence, saying Malacañang has had "long-standing knowledge of special operations against my person, much less against even-mic 'Delta' or 'Hero.'"

"Delta" allegedly served as a code name for Dacer in the murder plot, while "Hero" referred to retired Chief Supt. Reynaldo Orosco, a known ...ende of Lacanas and then President Joseph Estrada.

Lacanas slipped back to the country on March 20, a week after the appellate court cleared him of involvement in the killings, citing weak evidence.

Surrender order

De Leon said US Department of Justice ...ached to Manila Bulletin Courtesy II sent a letter to Chief State Counsel Ricardo Paras III informing the Philippine government that the US attorney general had approved the motion for surrender.

"It is my understanding that Michael Ray Aquino must be removed from the United States on or before July 5, 2011," Courtney said in his letter dated June 9.

Courtney said US marshals were already facilitating the transfer of Aquino from Los ...geles, California, from a detention facility in New Jersey to prepare for his extradition.

In an order dated June 7, the US district ...partment said Aquino should be taken back to the Philippines pursuant to the extradition treaty between the two countries.

The order said the fugitive must be "transferred" to Philippine law enforcement authorities after New Jersey District Court Judge Stare Salas "has heard and adjudged that the evidence produced against [Aquino] is sufficient to ...y his extradition."

With a report from TJ Burgonio

CESAR Mancao II

ELISEO Dacer

Let's make it easy.

INQUIRER

OPINION

Toughening up

EDITORIAL

In Dili Philippines' war of words with China over the Spratlys, the United States has made it clear it's siding with neither, which means it is siding with China and leaving its former enemy in the lurch. This is the logic of the surprising e-mail statement of US press attaché Rebecca Thompson regarding the remark of Presidential Deputy Spokesperson Abigail Valte that Malacañang expects the United States to come to the Philippines' aid if ever hostilities break out with Beijing over the Spratlys and honor its commitment under the Mutual Defense Treaty (MDT). "The US does not take sides in regional territorial disputes," Thompson said, adding that her country "shares a number of national interests with the international community in the South China Sea." She did not mention the Philippines, her country's historic ties with it, or the two countries' MDT. The silence of the statement on the Philippines and its concerns over Chinese encroachments on its territory is deafening.

Thompson's laconic statement seems to dampen an earlier statement by US Ambassador Harry K. Thomas Jr. paying effusive tribute to the close relations between the two countries. It may yet show that statements on very crucial issues should not be left to underlings, much like concerns on the Spratlys should not be left to Palace spokesmen but to the Department of Foreign Affairs. Valte's statement on the radio-about the MDT was unsuccessful. She said that the United States is bound by the MDT to come to the rescue of its ally if hostilities break out with China although "I haven't seen the terms of the MDT quite recently."

Her candor is understandable because last June, President Aquino, during the same Dili sandiac in Timor, he pointedly told the press that Philippines was siding not have "because they (China) are at a great advantage." He could not have made it any clearer that he thinks we are pushovers. Even in our war of words with China, we are sitting...

But the Philippines needs to toughen up in order to assert its territorial and other sovereign claims. And toughening up should not only cover beefing up its external defense but also flexing its diplomatic muscle and reviewing international commitments. In the light of Thompson's statement, there's especially a need to review the MDT and the Visiting Forces Agreement (VFA). For all of its going by pronouncements about the MDT, Malacañang should be cautioned against gullibility. The MDT contains enough ambiguity to allow US inaction on Philippine security concerns. Only self-interest will compel the United States to get involved in the Spratlys and because of its growing rapprochement with China because of business interests, the odds are against it now.

As for the VFA, the defense relations between the Philippines and the United States have taken on more and more the color of serving American interest only—as part of its global war on terror. While the Philippines shares that concern, it also has more immediate preoccupations, such as China's "terror" tactics in the Spratlys.

China must be compelled to honor the Declaration of Conduct of Parties in the South China Sea (DOC), which it signed in 2002 with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations. The DOC enjoins disputants to exercise self-restraint so as not to complicate or escalate their dispute and to handle their differences constructively. As Foreign Secretary Alberto del Rosario has said, the provision "is being aggressively violated."

As the Spratlys row escalates and as China flexes its muscle as a superpower, there's a need for the Philippines to review its foreign policy, especially toward the United States. Lee Kuan Yew has urged Asean to creatively engage the United States so that it would remain a key player in the region, the better for it to act as a counterweight for China. But Asean's seeming reluctance to put its foot down on China's bullying of the Philippines, a former colony and an ally, may yet be a sign of things to come.

It is noteworthy that the Philippines has receded more and more from the radar of American foreign policymakers as China's economic weight becomes more and more a tantalizing prospect for American business. Liberal capitalism and neoliberalism communism may not be strange bedfellows after all. As for the Philippines and the United States, so much for shared values and historic ties. The law of nostalgia—and Hollywood—may be irresistible, but the Philippines needs a dosage of shocking realism to wake it up from its stupor. And that shock comes with the Spratlys.

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'Law of the stomach'

VIEWPOINT

Juan L. Mercado

"THE BEGINNING of wisdom is to call all things by their right names." Sen. Francis "Kiko" Pangilinan worked by that proverb at former hearings on Subtitle... Tons of unlabeled mineral fertilizer are dumped on farmers with fake price that forces hard "carrying capacity."

The root cause is not climate change or poverty, asserted Pangilinan. "It is greed. Mas maraming fertilizer, mas pinagkakitaan ng mga opisyal." Any perpetrating defeats or high up government.

Links Tesoro imports 6,000 fish cages but is painted with 12,000, noted Ed Antolin of the DF Marine Science Institute. With pesticides spread over a third of Laguna de Bay (15,000 hectares). Has corrode the 20,000 hectares maximum permissible cap. Over 11,000 small fishermen were bypassed, turned off immediate Pilot Lourdes revealed.

"The worst, all nature is not fair." The Indo Sea and Bohol-like reefs are ravaged by "marvelous overfishing," reports a Swedish Academy of Science study.

Moro Gulf fishermen used to haul 100,000 tons yearly. Then it down to 25,000 tons, smaller with fish. Mercy Goff and Patrick Sen yield a third of their original record of 15 metric tons. Drained farmer now catch hauls recovered since in 2004 slump.

Invulnerable marine ecosystems are a shambles of what they were. Fisheries, their waters may be restored up to 70% or illegal, transport ed. Unexplained," the Swedish Academy report adds. This chaotic situation spawns practices like overdependence on aliens species and poisons.

"Specialists have identified 1,000 species that originated in the Philippines and 'flowers in the 1960s," the UN Environment Programme reports. By the mid 1980s, "more than 80 percent of fish harvested, destined for aquarium trade, were collected using cyanide."

Means of cyanide spread to Asian countries, then leapfrogged to Maldives in the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and Seychelles. In its wake, cyanide decimated marine populations and wrecked coral reefs.

Celebrated police protocols. Trial charges against Jee Ponig and Ultima Lim Li for trying to hide 100,000 to murder if the charge of "hulidgan, kabilyo, kabarkan" is running only from the DBA camp. The reason for that is that you'll notice that none of the hulligans, if not kabilyo and kabarkan, who have been singled out for entire belongs to the so-called "Bahay" group, or the same persons named in the Bicol. The implication is that only the non "Bahay" people have been tried on the basis of flimsy and not competent.

None of the "BHP" has included Reels and Alda Alcala, the latter's son and PMD secretaries in apparently Cas anything to state benighted, not to speak of unethical, then having family connect two real positions in Mandaluyong? That's no touched a case of kidnapped for, as you can get, its also an indictment of the prejudicial system as you can get. There's a former guy's hostile, and not without a what it has produced.

None of the "KKK" has included Reels Committee who has managed to alienate respondent rather than get them on government's side. What has managed to alienate other personalities by directing the case he came from, specifically by looking down in advance as it. After has managed to alienate his from from the people for failing to communicate the message he from from a communication problem.

None of the "KKK" has included Reels himself who has hinted himself on if New on the basis of pugnacious, provocative, and having "sacrificed" by stepping down, demanding all sorts of concessions before being induced to accept the DOTC post. Whose competence has so far included switching cabs from Ilog to Cebu to Pilog, a la Juan Ponce Enrile and Mikhail Gorbachev, managing to have a "new game" in the vice presidential race, and managing to sneak into the United Nations last year as part of Pilog's official entourage without being in government.

Now, the accusation of "KKK" is not just coming from outsiders, it's coming from within.

Which brings us to the real problem. By itself, punching friends and classmates in executive positions is not a problem, though I grant you that blunt and not couth and other random social faults. Some lawmakers and genre satires as an ethnic. Presidents "wrestled with five times in the area of interest Islands."

Only one percent of the 27,000 hectares of reefs remains in "pristine" condition, the fish-bombing Bataclli.

Rash. "Aquino bombing" did not mean overnight. Area come are are leaving the alarm system only now?

Red flags were raised earlier. The World Resources Institute found two major studies that flagged anomalies in the pillages. "Reefs at Risk" in 1998 and "Reefs at Risk Revisited" this year. In 2000, the UN Environment Programme convened the international plan Philippines capping eight nations in the $200 million yearly global trade of ornamental fish species.

Metallic supplies 45 of 95 species traded, from our hotels to supplies thrills, 1,600 species. Manila hosts 1,132 species fair, compared with Indonesia's 943,000 plus. How, add to that black and red corals.

Other ecosystems have been researched. That is shown by species fishing in Bash Bay, Masinloc, Bataan, Bicol, Cavite, Batangas, and recently Bolinao in Pindan.

"The Philippines was the first Asia-Pacific country to the goal where today it can to ecosystem. It legislates its forest wealth," noted the Food and Agriculture Organization. "Quickly" ecosystem were established. Log exports were banned in the late '80s. The forests were conserved.

"Yesterday's timber prime victims is today's wood pimples," Philippine noted. Intensive fish efforts cut across the board. More than half of our grounds are now today is concentrated, the Asian Development Bank notes.

Still, KKK

THERE'S THE RUB

Conrado de Quiros

About 100,000 tons of crystal topped is washed out as sea nearly Hundred waters soda Davao, Lingayen and other gulfs. Here are breached the critical threshold where ecosystem cannot recover and fermented.

"The Philippines is ranked fourth (after Indonesia and Brazil) which are 20 times largest for severely endangered plants and animal associations," Conservation International points out.

Mindoro's situation is endangered. There are only 200 of the new-to-science god discovered in Mindoro Islands. Only four of Cebu's flowerpecker (Dicaeum quadricolor) are left, making it the world's most endangered species.

"Nine species remain in the wild, namely Philippine gold heartleaf, the abaca," MARY TY and Clemencio Fortes' effort includes from a panacea for service fees a vast lot what called 50 species called "key deforestation."

The war of the terminals in the ITT broadband scandal, tripled machines from the usual 20 percent to 60 percent. With limited law backwork, Eduardo Cojuangco secured from from deliberation contract elements. A former corporate pulled out of P80 billion economic Chinese project when Espinosa and Villaroel, to some officials tried to bring a P400 million rental and grazed contract...for themselves.

The late National Economic Business Council Chairman Jesus Estanislao, at his National address to food and Agriculture Organization member nations in Jakarta, the "fruit" said: "Our formulation of policy it has been said, often confused the problem of rural poverty with social injustice of ownership. In our country, it is hope that this assessment of land's judgment is not so. For there are critics who insist that our flawed strategies were not the result of inappropriate code. They claim it was, as such has been, a simple case of old-fashioned greed. American industrialist betrayed the weak."

He added: "I pray that assessment is wrong. But it's should prove right, then we have much to answer for those whose lives were stripped by poverty."

+++

Email: jmercado@gmail.com

Investing in smallholders

NO FREE LUNCH

Cielito F. Habito

CONSIDER THE following facts:

• By 2050, there will be 9 billion people on the planet, and the demand for food will have risen by 70 percent.

• Demand for water worldwide will increase by 30 percent by 2050.

• Consumers in rich countries waste up to one-fourth of the food they buy.

• By just the fault of the rich countries, more than half of the population is overweight.

• In the last 20 years, the share of agriculture in international aid has been cut by 43 percent to barely 5 percent.

• These apparitions from are supposed to extend nearly 60 percent of global cooling world-wide.

These are among the startling facts that Dave Rodney Sterling, chief executive officer of Oxfam Great Britain, told his colleagues during a luncheon address and subsequent talk a year earlier in Oxford, England, where I was one of the guests. The talk was based on his recently published book, "The Hungry Planet: Modern Food, Ethics and Agriculture." Oxfam International is a confederation of 14 organizations working in 98 countries to find lasting solutions to poverty, suffering and injustice.

The problem cannot be properly analyzed by simply looking at aggregate statistics, and Sterling's talk was replete with human stories. He described how a woman in Ethiopia, forced to forage for food for her family, has to walk farther and farther each day to find anything edible. Or how a mother in Kenya, unable to feed her children, has to watch them die of hunger. Or how a farmer in Malawi, who has been growing maize for his family for generations, has to abandon his land because it has become unproductive.

Sterling's talk was a moving appeal for more and better investments in agriculture, especially in the developing world. He argued that the world has the capacity to produce enough food for everyone, but that the problem is that the poor cannot afford to buy it. He also argued that the problem is not so much that there is not enough food, but that there is too much food being produced in the wrong way.

He argued that the problem is not so much that there is not enough food, but that there is too much food being produced in the wrong way. He argued that the problem is not so much that there is not enough food, but that there is too much food being produced in the wrong way.

No more child soldiers

LETTERS

THE APPROVAL of House Bill 4481, which seeks to criminalize the use of children in armed conflicts, will definitely make a significant contribution to the national effort to protect children. Under the bill, recruiting children for use in armed conflicts is prohibited and a punishable act or crime.

The UP-NSRI is one of the many civic groups that saw such deplorable cases of children in the crossfires. Most of the children it rescued are killed or maimed in combat. To it is obvious that child recruits do not know any ideological belief and are lured into the conflict because of basic needs such as food, clothing and medicine.

We laud the authors of the bill. The child soldiers' proper places are in school and by the side of their parents and loved ones. The bill helps assure a brighter life and future for children.

—CORNELIO S. BARRAZA
talofloresbarrazas@yahoo.com

Redevelopment of Intramuros under PPP plan

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism's plan to redevelop the 400-hectare "Walled City" Intramuros augurs well for the growth of Philippine tourism in the future. (Business, 6/2/11)

The redevelopment of the Manila-area Pasig, patterned after Singapore's Clarke Quay, would certainly generate a lot of interest among Filipinos and foreign shoppers and bring them to an entertained, pollution-free environment.

There is also the rebuilding of the San Agustin Church that will house the ecclesiastical art collection of Jimmy Laya and will contribute to the Museum's prominence.

This project is being offered under Republic Act 6957 or the Build-Operate-Transfer (BOT) program. It is hoped to open property developers, and I must stress it does not qualify automatically for a part of this project. Low- to medium-rates will not materialize or push through as planned.

Kudos to Tourism Secretary Alberto Lim for commencing the redevelopment of Intramuros. It should be a showcase of the country's cultural heritage.

—PEDRO REYES DE EL
6727 Leyte St., Makati City

Is top Inquirer columnist lawyering for Globe?

AMADO OSORIO III, Inq. 1 column ("Philippine Star newspaper") has taken yet another swipe at PLDT and to that mere Manuel V. Pangilinan. How many has he been lawyering for PLDT's name yet?

What I found rather odd was that nowhere in his piece does Osmeña mention the fact that Globe Telecom wanted to acquire Digitel that Globe's first refusal. If Globe has acted, might do to downplay this fact, even telling someone that deal were "talks" with the Gokongwei-owned Digitel but that these were preliminary. Gosh, is often said that it was not really serious in pursuing it. But since it had been left hanging the door with the PLDT-Digitel deal, Globe has been raising the monopoly bogey at every opportunity and Osmeña seems to have embraced it hook, line and sinker. Osmeña conveniently omitted to say that had Globe acquired Digitel, it would now be within striking distance of the same commanding level of PLDT-Smart in the telecom industry and would likely and favorably be saying such things as:

The impression I get from Osmeña's commentary is that Pangilinan and Metro Pacific are single-handedly gobbling up every company they can lay their hands on, and if we don't watch out, they could take over the government as well and transform it into Philippines Inc. The alternative must be unplanned and quite public, as Metro is the easiest to be circling around to be next conglomerate, and not unlikely encountering its opposition.

I agree that we need an anti-trust law to prevent big business from taking stranglehold over competition and dictating unreasonable rates for consumers and the general public. But in the case of the telecom industry, Pangilinan and other PLDT officials have already given assurances that they would keep San Miguel and its brethren as "safe" services, then consumers have no reason to worry at all that they would have to pay astronomical rates as a result of the PLDT-Digitel combine.

—RICARDO VALENTIN
jose_valentin@yahoo.com

PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT STAFF

INVITATION TO BID

PROCUREMENT FOR THE SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FUEL, LUBRICANTS, AND OTHER RELATED PRODUCTS AND SERVICES THROUGH FLEET CARDS FOR THE PRESIDENTIAL MANAGEMENT STAFF

The Office of the President-Presidential Management Staff (PMS-Staff), through its Bids and Awards Committee (BAC), hereby invites all eligible interested manufacturers, suppliers or distributors to bid for the procurement of the following:

NAME OF PROJECT	:	Procurement for the supply and delivery of fuel, lubricants, and other related products and services through fleet cards for the Presidential Management Staff
LOCATION	:	PMS Central Office
APPROVED BUDGET	:	Six Million Five Hundred Thousand Pesos (Php6,500,000.00)
FUND SOURCE	:	FY 2011 Maintenance and Other Operating Expenses Budget
CONTRACT DURATION	:	One (1) Year
ORDER THE GOODS NOW	:	Supply and deliver refined lubricants and other related products and services to the PMS

Bidders should have completed, within the last three (3) years from the date of submission and receipt of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The description of an eligible bidder is contained in the Bidding Documents particularly in the Instructions to Bidders.

Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Revised Implementing Rules and Regulations of Republic Act (RA) No. 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, cooperatives, and associations/partnerships or corporations duly organized under the laws of the Philippines, and to citizens or associations of citizens of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to RA 5183 and Executive Order No. 245, dated June 29, 1995.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the PMS-BAC Secretariat and review the Bidding Documents at the address given below during working hours from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM. The complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested bidders from the address given below and upon payment of a non-refundable amount of One Thousand Five Hundred Pesos (Php1,500.00).

It may also be downloaded from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PhilGEPS) (https://www.philgeps.gov.ph), provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids. However, any bids not accompanied by the Bidding Documents shall be rejected. Prospective bidders are enjoined to purchase the Bidding Documents as the procurement activity will be conducted based on the contents of the Bidding Documents.

The schedule of the bidding activities is as follows:

Activities	Activities/Time/Venue
1. Issuance of the Bid Documents	10 June to 30 June 2011 (Open every before conference office hours, APT Legal Services Conference Room, PMS Building, Malaya Street, San Miguel, Manila)
2. Pre-Bid Conference	20 June 2011 (Monday), 2:00 PM at the APT Legal Services Conference Room, PMS Building, Malaya Street, San Miguel, Manila
3. Request for Clarification	20-21 June 2011, bidders, Chairman Bids and Awards Committee, PMS-Staff Building, Malaya Street, San Miguel, Manila
4. Submission and Opening of Bids	30 June 2011 (Friday), 2:00 PM, at the APT Legal Services Conference Room, PMS Building, Malaya Street, San Miguel, Manila

Bids must be delivered on or before the deadline for the submission of bids and it must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in the Instructions to Bidders. The bid shall be opened in the presence of the bidders or their duly authorized representatives who choose to attend at the address and date indicated above.

The PMS reserves the right to reject any or all Bids, to waive any minor defects therein, to accept the Bid in its entirety, to reject all Bids if the lowest Bid is considered unreasonable, to cancel the Bidding, or to change the provisions of the Bidding Documents, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder(s), and to accept only the offer that is most advantageous to the Government.

The PMS assumes no responsibility whatsoever for misinterpretations contained in the any documents in the preparation of their Bids.

For further information, please refer to:

Ms. Emily Frances Ria Bryan, John S. Bago
Bids and Awards Committee Secretariat
Ms. Shalimar S. Natividad-Bago, Virginia M. Panzalan, Jr.
PMS-Staff Legal Services Division
2/F PMS Building, Malaya Street, San Miguel, Manila
Contact Nos. 734-1877 to 80 local 152 or 161/162
Fax No. 736-0160 or 736-0162 (TF)
Email: pms_bac@yahoo.com.ph

ATTY. JOSE WILFREDO S. OCA, CESO II
Director, PMS-Staff

Manila, 13 June 2011
(6) jun 14 (PH)

But PWDs still being ignored

THIS is my reaction to the letter titled "Church has firm desire four for disabled" (Inq. 6/10/11).

This is the first time I came across such a letter where a complaint received in terms of process with disabilities (PWDs). But this may be because the complainant is connected with the Department of Trade and Industry and Communications.

How about us, ordinary PWDs? PWDs are being ignored and are not enjoying the privileges due to under Republic Act 7277, the Magna Carta for Persons with Disabilities (Republic Act 9442).

—BENJAMIN A. CUNANAN
Jet Life Inc.
Grand Pacific Hotel,
Mabalacat, Pampanga,
Angeles, Pampanga

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Writers of letters to the editor are requested to include their complete address and telephone or pager number, or e-mail address, for verification purposes. The Inquirer will not publish any letter unless such information is supplied.

Across the NATION
Assistant Editor Tony Benjamin

Central Luzon workers to get ₱28 Cola hike

By Tonette Orejas and Aurelio Reyes, Inquirer Central Luzon

CITY OF SAN FERNANDO—Starting June 24, minimum-wage earners working in private firms in Central Luzon should get ₱28 in daily cost of living allowance (Cola), according to the latest order of the Regional Tripartite Wages and Productivity Board.

The ₱28 is a result of the combination of the new ₱4 Cola granted through Wage Order No. 18 and the previous ₱24 given through Wage Order No. 13, wage board secretary Elizabeth Tesio said by phone on Thursday.

The new ₱4 Cola was below the ₱90 daily minimum-level wage increase that the Trade Union Congress of the Philippines sought for Central Luzon workers on May 5.

In the order, the board said it found the "existence of improving conditions" in the region, which the National Wages and Productivity Commission confirmed through a resolution.

The latest wage order came seven months after the most recent order issued by the wage board. The Department of Labor and Employment has not reported how many companies complied with the previous wage order.

"The board deemed it necessary to provide workers immediate relief from the rising costs of living," she heard said.

Two members of the seven-person board dissented against the order.

Victoria Guerra, governor of the Philippine Chamber of Commerce and Industry in the region, said the ₱28 increase was a "compromise."

She said the order would force many firms to stop hiring "under-skilled" workers.

The minimum wage for nonagricultural workers in Bataan, Bulacan, Nueva Ecija, Pampanga, Tarlac and Zambales is pegged at ₱289 (figure with ₱28 million in excess earners) and ₱322.50 (from with-seven-below 200 million).

Plantation workers in the same provinces stand to get ₱280, while nonplantation workers, PDid. Compo is bandicraft workers are also enrolled to get ₱284.

Workers in retail and service firms employing 15 or more people are set to get ₱319 while those in companies with less than 10 employees are entitled to ₱303.

In Aurora, minimum wages were set at ₱279 (nonagricultural), ₱264 (plantation), ₱244 (nonplantation), ₱281 (nonskilled service employees) not more than 10 workers) and ₱252 (cottage handicraft).

The latest order exempted establishments in retail and services employing not more than 10 workers and distressed companies.

In Nueva Ecija, businessmen have asked labor officials to keep wage rates at their current levels.

"We are pleading for a status quo on the daily wage. The increase should be done when the economy has become really good," said Reynaldo Bermudez-Jose, president of the Nueva Ecija Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

'NPA' utterances behind assault of broadcaster in Tabuk City?

TABANG-GANAY

BAGUIO CITY—The wrongful "NPA" may have been the root of the shuffle between Rodrigo Ken Acot Base and a government broadcaster during a June 7 for broadcast that was recorded by video and streamed online, documents showed.

On June 10, Kalinga employees supporting Bise Jose Maharangit's communications office a Jose and complaints against broadcaster Tabuganay, an anchor of the station DZRC Radyo ng Bayan, for "employing hate speech" and for allegedly inciting communist rebels to discuss their positions on air.

But Tabuganay said his listeners were misled. Speaking by phone from Tabuk City, he said he had broadcast commentaries against inefficient provincial government employees, whom he referred to as "nonperforming assets," and was not speaking about the New People's Army armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines.

Tabuganay said his talk-in-center with rebels was a text message sent by someone claiming to be one of them during an episode of his program, "Agenda." He was then explaining the provincial government's supposed failure to stop the illegal numbers game "jueteng."

The text message said: "Sir Jerome, if government cannot stop jueteng, we are willing to help. Give us the names of the bet collectors."

Tabuganay said he read the message on air. "But I also replied that I do not favor (the) NPA, attacking (illegal gambling operations), and that I am against armed struggle. The topic of the broadcast until, rebels are willing not to date time, will prove this," he said.

Petition to Palace

The petition against Tabuganay was sent by Tito Cauli, director of the Philippine Broadcasting Service, which is under the supervision of the Presidential Communications Operations Office (PCOO). It was circulated at a Baguio press conference on Friday by Kalinga legal officer Rolston Winding.

It described Tabuganay's broadcasting style as "strenuous, unrestrained in inciting to violence," and had referred to a broadcast made on May 24 when he supposedly offered ammo to the NPA. There was the same day a security guard killed in an attempt to burn the radio station in Tabuk.

The complaint, signed by 82 people, urged the PCOO to reassign the broadcaster "for his own safety, and protection against his enemies."

On Friday, Winding read Bise's statement, which said Tabuganay's "unconvened set of invectives in broadcasting and unfair way of handling the 'proposed Agenda' ... is already damaging the image of the province which the government has been laboring to uplift through its various development programs."

Bise's statement cited Tabuganay's alleged offer to provide armed rebels entrance to a provincial office.

The governor said he "came to the radio station on June 7 to discuss his differences with Tabuganay because "there was no effort from the (PCOO management) to check his behavior."

Counsel problem

"I did not have any intention to hurt (the Tabuganays) in any way ... But upon entering the booth, he arrogantly said, 'Oh, (gay)! (Now what?)', which prompted me to (grab) the microphone," he said.

Tabuganay said he filed an assault charge against Bise on Friday night, but lawyers who advised him to file a petition declined to serve as his counsel.

"They tell me they wanted to take a neutral stand on this issue, and did not want to antagonize the governor," he said.

Bise Jerome agreed to endorse his sworn statement and those of his five witnesses. Tabuganay's aired, but no one was available when he went to the provincial prosecutor's office. His complaint was received by an office staff member. Vincent Cabreros and Melvin Gascon, with a report from Frank Cimatu, Inquirer Northern Luzon

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With flooded villages, Batangas town declares state of calamity

BATANGAS CITY—The municipal council of Ibaan in Batangas has declared a state of calamity to immediately address the needs of residents in eight villages swamped by floodwaters on June 9.

Municipal administrator Antonio de Leo Jr. said its decision on Sunday that Friday's declaration would enable the local government to release between P800,000 and P900,000 of its calamity fund to help the villagers, although no one was reported injured, damage to infrastructure as a result of the floods was placed at P20 million.

He, however, said the municipality would still need financial help from the provincial and national governments.

The flood, which went as high as 4 feet in some parts of the town, was brought by two days of heavy rain spawned by a low pressure area that later developed into tropical storm "Dodong."

It swept eight of the 46 barangays—Alalum, Ilaya, Danglayan, Sta. Anastacia, Sta. Isabel, Sta. Teresita, Poblacion 2, Santo Domingo, San Isidro 1 and San Andres proper.

The flood also damaged two wells, a bridge and stretch of the road in Alalum, Lucy said.—Marvin B. Escandallo, Inquirer Southern Luzon

BOTOLAN QUARRYING

Black sand mining threatens shoreline

By Robert Garcia
Inquirer Central Luzon

IBA, ZAMBALES—Residents of a coastal village in Botolan town are complaining that black sand mining operations here have been eating away the shoreline of their community, threatening to destroy their houses.

"We have been complaining for a long time. Some of my neighbors are afraid already. We have approached [Department of Environment and Natural Resources] officials here many times, but [the operations are] still ongoing," said Teresita Odtojan, 56, a resident of Barangay Bucoliman.

She said the mining operations had reduced Bucoliman's shoreline, putting their houses on a crumbling pattern three meters.

Odtojan also said her family had to deal with harassment from operators "because they are angry that we're trying to stop this."

"Most villagers here are employed by the [Ramos] buyer of the black sand[, and they say] if [he] is [village] councilor here," she said.

Permit for 2 years

Benjamin Manalili, chief of the environment and natural resources office in Zambales, said his office issued a permit to Fernando Ubando, a village councilor in Bucoliman, on March 9 to mine black sand in the area for two years.

The current value of a metric ton of high-grade magnetite is $40 (P1,720), but workers in Bucoliman are paid only a small fraction of that load, the residents said.

But Ubandoal said he asked Ghater to stop operations after he received complaints from villagers. "I asked the proponent and the buyer to suspend their operations. No one is complaining. [Lately], so I thought that they had stopped," Ubandoal said.

He showed the Inquirer a letter he wrote to Lee Book Ju, the Korean buyer of the black sand, where he cited Republic Act No. 7076, which prohibits mining operations in coastal villages.

Ubandoal, in the letter, also ordered Lee to stop "using black sand from Odtojan." "Likewise, stop ... operations as it could [endanger] the community and may [damage] the environment," he said.

Mining near the coastline

The Botolan Global Biotechnium on Thursday met new several workers extracting and hugging black sand near the coastline. Dump trucks were in the village, waiting for load there.

Ubandoal said he couldn't measure the area because "I'm the only male in [his office here]. I can't send women there." He, however, promised to check the operations.

He said the permit to quarry Botolan's black sand could not have been issued without the endorsement of village, town and provincial officials.

Asked how his office could have issued a permit in an area where mining activities are prohibited under RP 201, Ubandoal said: "The surveyor made a mistake. It was a misconception. It's not supposed to be done near the shoreline."

Gov. Hermogenes Ebdane Jr. said he based his approval of the permit on the actions of local officials. "If there's a permit there, I based my approval on the clearances and endorsement of local officials. If it's done in error, it should be stopped," he said.

Ebdane said Ubandoal's explanation that the surveyor made a mistake was "not an excuse." "If there's a violation, we revoke the permit. This should have been done a long time ago," he said.

Green lawyers offer services to help BFAR

By Dalila Maliat Jr.
Inquirer Southern Luzon

LUCBAN CITY—The Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources (BFAR) is gearing up for court battles against environmental criminals with the help of an army of volunteer lawyers from the private sector.

Director Ivan Perez said he had received many offers of legal assistance from fellow lawyers in and out of the country following the recent seizure of tons of process and semi-process corals in the ports of Manila and Batangas.

"I was overwhelmed. There were lots of text messages from colleagues, mostly environmental lawyers, all volunteering their help in the prosecution. Some of them are even trying to form an international team of lawyers to help the BFAR," Perez said in an interview here on Saturday.

Welcome development

This is a welcome development, he said, noting that the bureau did not have enough lawyers to handle the volume of cases that it would file against environmental offenders.

"We have to show these environmental criminals that we really mean business. We need all available legal resources to help in the prosecution," Perez said.

He said he would distribute all volunteer lawyers to different regions.

Before his current post, Perez was executive director of the Legal Education Board (LEB), a public interest law office rank advocacy on environmental protection. He was also a member of the special committee that drafted the new Rules of Procedure for Environmental Cases for the Supreme Court.

His appointment as BFAR head was reported in the website of the US-based Environmental Law Alliance Worldwide (Elaw), which is composed of 300 green lawyers from 70 countries.

Perez said he had also received offers of donations of some six million "bangus" (milkfish) fingerlings from the private sector to replenish the seven affected by the recent fish kill in Batangas and Pangasinan.

"I was informed by Agriculture Secretary Proceso Alcala that Manny Pacquiao will also donate fingerlings. My problem now is to find the places where to temporarily keep the fingerling donation," he said.

He said the fingerlings would be distributed free to the fishermen. "But operators of illegal fish cages will be excluded," Perez said.

Coral reef preservation

Perez reiterated that his main focus as BFAR chief would still be on educating the people on the importance of preserving the country's fragile marine resources, particularly coral reefs. He noted that the prohibition on trading of process and semi-process corals started in 1998 but that information had yet to reach the general public.

"Villagers in the coastal areas were not aware of the prohibitions. The only thing that they knew is that the corals are valuable items. The illegal traders were the only ones aware of the law, though I cannot discount the possibilities that some government people in the area are actually tolerating the underground business," he said.

DIRECTOR. Ivan Perez (right) of the Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources joins Director Theresa Mundita Lim of the Protected Areas Wildlife Bureau of Senior Insp. Mario Ramos in inspecting rare shells and other endangered species recovered in Zambales City.

Log caravan not meant to impress, says DENR

By Melvin Gascon
Inquirer Northern Luzon

BAYOMBONG, Nueva Vizcaya—Denying that he is curious of seized timber and vehicles last week, officials of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR) in Cagayan Valley on Monday charged their ruin, saying the transport was not meant to impress anyone, not even President Aquino.

Benjamin Tomalinas, environment regional director, said the transport of 36 vehicles, along with their cargo of 196 cubic meters of illegally cut forest products, to Metro Manila was not meant to show off their agency's accomplishment.

"We were not trying to impress anyone. That [we were to display our accomplishments] was a reason that any staff made up when the convoy left the region to mislead owners and prevent them from sabotaging our trip," he said.

400-km trip

On Thursday last week, a fleet of 36 trucks, vans and jeepneys, carrying confiscated timber, left the DENR compounds to various towns in Cagayan, Isabela, Nueva Vizcaya and Quirino and arrived at the DENR central office in Carmen City on Friday. The convoy traveled more than 400 kilometers.

Tomalinas's June 2 memorandum directed the DENR's provincial and community environment officers in the region to prepare all trailers and vehicles for transport to the DENR central office.

"As complained [with] the instruction of the secretary on May 31, 2011, reiterated on June 1, 2011, all confiscated conveyances and the forest products loaded thereon shall be turned over to the central office before June 15 for presentation by [Secretary Ramon Paje] to the President," Tomalinas said on the memorandum.

Included in the transfers were 22 vehicles each for Cagayan and Isabela, three for Quirino and one for Nueva Vizcaya, which cover confiscated cargo from January 2010 to June this year. Only 36 vehicles made the trip.

People who read many on the convoy motive dismissed the DENR's move, saying it was a matter of people's money.

Giving up custody

Tomalinas, however, said the real reason for the transport of the seized lumber and vehicles was for the DENR officers in Cagayan Valley to give up custody of the confiscated and lend all "pressure" from its owners.

"Our employees have received threats from owners that if they see DENR personnel driving around with their vehicles, they [owners] will kill them," he said.

Tomalinas said he also received reports that illegal loggers—whose lot he declared no name, and been offering DENR officials bribes, ranging from P50,000 to P1 million, in exchange for the release of the vehicles and cargo.

"[Critics] may say that what we did was not practical, considering all the expenses that we have incurred. But we believe it will be more of a loss for the government if we let these [confiscated lumber and vehicles] remain in our custody, and sixteen out get returned to them. The threats may just force them to accept the bribe," he said.

Enraged officials

Tomalinas and other DENR officials were enraged when they read the Inquirer story on Saturday, especially that it portrayed them as "engaged engines [downfall]."

"Would you want [with an] where they read the same story that men have punched you out of disgust," he told this correspondent.

DENR records showed that in 2009, before Tomalinas took office, 23 shipments of illegally cut timber exited that year were all released.

Reasons cited for the release included the posting of bond by owners and "[the transaction] was underway," he said.

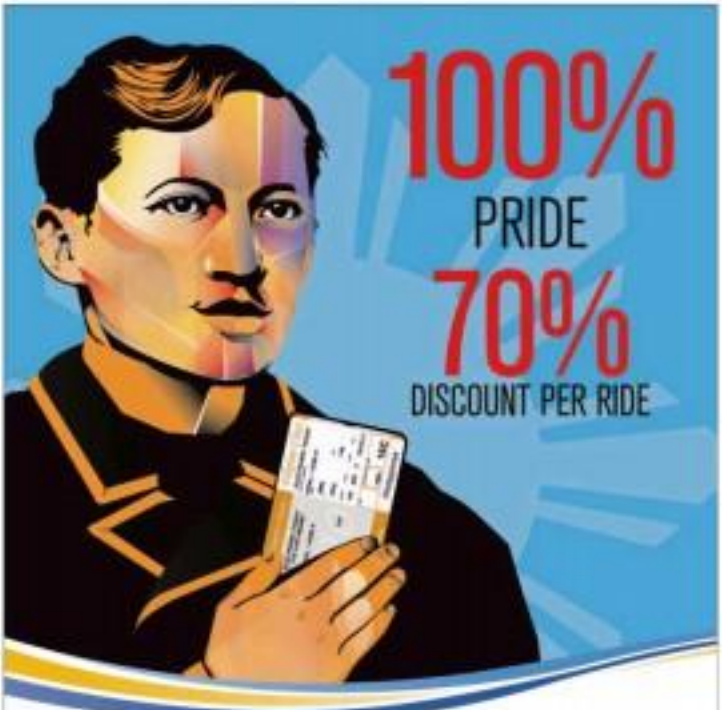
"I have not said will seize cohorts [confiscated shipments] even if [have] documents & [assemblies—our personnel in the field who have worked hard for these apprehensions. Instead, I pity out members of P10,000 for every shipment caught," he said.

Tomalinas said DENR will work with the Department of Justice and the Land Transportation Office for the transfer of ownership of the seized vehicles to the government.

Paje, for said, would decide how these will be disposed off for use by the DENR for its operations.

The cargo of illegally cut lumber will be turned over to the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda) so these can be turned into school desks and chairs, Tomalinas said.

SCHOOL ORDEAL Pupils at a remote village of Layag-layag in Zamboanga City wade through water about waist-high with new schoolbags donated by Good Samaritans. Dozens of the poor children in the mangrove village on Isla Ipil are under while swimming to and from their homes across water to get to school after government employees and blogger Jay Jalosjos learned of their plight and raised money through Facebook to build them at least three bridges. ▼



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Fire displaces Cebu students

CEBU CITY—Property worth around P2 million went up in smoke in a dawn fire that razed Cebu City on Monday.

The fire also displaced 164 people, mostly students of the nearby Southwestern University (SWU).

SFO3 Manny Lajot of the city fire department said the fire broke out at 2:40 a.m. at a boarding house owned by Nenita Lumbo Barrientos on Urgello Street and spread to SWU. It destroyed at least six rooms of the Mario Cuenco Building of the SWU biology department.

Twenty houses were also destroyed.

Student Lorie Lachica, one of the boarders, recalled that she heard an explosion from the electric fan encased on the wall and saw flames creeping up the wall and ceiling.

Lajot said the burning neighborhood area was very congested, but firemen passing through seven roads were able to contain the fire after 25 minutes. —Rose ann Sapothanon, Inquirer Visayas

Vietnam holds live-fire naval drill amid China spat

HANOI—Vietnam fired artillery rounds off its central coast on Monday in naval drills announced during a maritime spat with Beijing, as conflicts heat up between China and its neighbors over the potentially oil-rich South China Sea.

Vietnam has accused Chinese boats of disrupting oil and gas exploration in its waters, echoing a similar dispute that flared last week with the Philippines. Vietnam is ramping up its military moves to assert its sovereignty over disputed areas in recent months.

Vietnam said it would welcome foreign involvement to keep the peace, in an apparent reference to the United States, which last year angered China by offering to mediate between disputing states and potentially rich resources—and how Southeast Asia manages China's rise as a regional power.

Hanoi declined to say how many rounds were fired, according to a naval officer based in central Quang Nam province. He declined to give his name because he was not authorized to speak to the press.

Despite the disagreement with China, the Vietnamese naval exercises will run drills every morning and afternoon involving artillery and other weapons. He said no missiles would be fired, and declined to say how many troops or vessels were involved.

A second maneuver lasting five hours was scheduled for the evening.

Drills criticized

Wang Hanling, a Chinese maritime expert at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences who is currently a visiting research fellow at the East Asian Institute in Singapore, criticized the drills, saying Beijing has consistently sought to settle issues in the South China Sea peacefully.

Nay senior leading to the escalation of the situation won't help ... Military exercises either by Vietnam or other countries are not helpful," Wang said.

Vietnam said Chinese boats had cut a cable attached to an oil exploration vessel conducting a seismic survey off its coast on May 26 and blindsided operations of another vessel on June 9.

China, on the other hand, accused Vietnam of illegally extracting its waters and putting fishermen's lives at risk.

US role

Asked if the United States had a role in play in the dispute, Vietnamese foreign ministry spokesperson Nguyen Phuong Nga pointed a response online on Friday that "every effort by the international community is maintaining peace and stability in the East Sea is welcome," the term Vietnam uses to refer to waters off its coast.

China feels that such boundary disputes should be settled one-on-one rather than multilaterally, Wang said, pointing to territorial negotiations between China and Vietnam that led to an agreement in 2000 establishing a boundary in the Gulf of Tonkin.

The assessment bordering the South China Sea have a long history of diplomatic tussles over the disputed Spratly and Paracel islands, which are claimed in whole or in part by Vietnam, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

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Multilateral approach

Many of the islands are clustered in the Philippines, Malaysia or Vietnam than China, though Beijing says its claims to them date back centuries.

Southeast Asian nations would like a multilateral approach to give them more negotiating power with China, said Zhao Gancheng, an expert on Southeast Asian affairs at the Shanghai Institutes for International Studies.

"Those countries feel they were comparatively weak and would like to introduce the external forces to balance China," Zhao said. "But China doesn't have confidence with the US on the issue of the South China Sea."

Philippine officials last week accused China of harassing oil exploration vessels, firing shots and conducting some construction activities on areas it claims around the Spratlys during six or seven incursions since February.

Angrier response

China denied the allegations and warned its neighbors not to conduct such research in its territory.

Such tit-for-tat swipes are the common way of airing grievances, but Hanoi has responded much more angrily to the current spat.

Hanoi accuses Beijing of attempting to create new disputed areas in waters within 370 kilometers (200 nautical miles) of Vietnam's coast, which are guaranteed as an economic exclusive zone by international law.

China, however, says the territorial claims asserted since the Spratly islands. It has issued verbal warnings for Vietnam to settle down, reminding the country it once ruled for 1,000 years to "tread past history" in a particularly weekend editorial published by the Communist Party.

Dr. Hoang Xuanhoan of Hanoi's Institute of Strategic and International Studies, said all the Asean members need did be involved so rule the claimants more would have to negotiate and agree to a deal.

"To do otherwise may have no progress as China may perceive that act as provocative with Asean ganging up on China," he said.

Now the issues must be urgently add. China to be sensitive to see positions, we too have to be alliance to Chinese sensitivities as well."

Mischief Reef

Manila and Hanoi have their own sensitivities. As the tensions and tightest season starts, Manila is worried about a repeat of the incident on Mischief Reef, 200 km (120 nautical miles) east of the southwestern island of Palawan.

In February 1995, the Philippines found a Chinese civilization on the reef, which it said was a military installation but which Beijing said was a shelter for fishermen. The stand-off would have both when the Philippine Navy was unable to patrol due to the bad weather.

The Abiy Douglas Bank is about 111 km (120 nautical miles) off Palawan. The Philippines has long also been home to a number of governments and does this year near Reed Bank—137 km (85 nautical miles) from Palawan and nearly 1,130 km (600 nautical miles) from China.

Those three territories have a line up the Palawan coast, well inside the Philippine exclusive economic zone.

"China has upped the ante to the past several months and by doing so is undermining its 'peaceful rise' rhetoric, drawing new goodwill and pushing countries in the region closer to the US," Storey said. Beauty

Southeast Asian countries wary of China in South China Sea

A BODY, pure-coal building materials on an inhabited outcrop named snowmanskie, but they mark an escalation of a dispute over one of the world's busiest shipping lanes and potentially rich resources—and how Southeast Asia manages China's rise as a regional power.

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Drills criticized

Wang Hanling, a Chinese maritime expert at the Chinese Academy of Social Sciences who is currently a visiting research fellow at the East Asian Institute in Singapore, criticized the drills, saying Beijing has consistently sought to settle issues in the South China Sea peacefully.

"Whether it is military or not ... I think if there is new building on a previously unoccupied feature, that would be a fairly clear breach of the DOC," said Ralph Cossbum, a senior fellow in the Military Studies Program at the S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies in Singapore.

The Philippines and Vietnam have both said they would increase their naval capabilities to protect their interests in the South China Sea. Hanoi has announced live-fire naval exercises on Monday.

Competing claims

The South China Sea covers more than 1.7 million square kilometers (648,000 square miles), including more than 200 mostly uninhabitable islands, rocks and reefs, the ownership of which confers rights to the surrounding waters—and to the oil and gas they are thought to contain, as well as fishing rights.

Although there are six claimants in parts or all of the sea—China, Taiwan, Vietnam, Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei—and many others have a say, the dispute is often seen as China, which has the largest claim, against the rest.

The problem is how to determine ownership. The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos) gives a country sovereignty over seas up to 22 km (12 nautical miles) from its coast, including of islands.

There is also the exclusive economic zone (EEZ) that gives jurisdiction over natural resources, scientific research and building structures. The EEZ extends to 370 km (200 nautical miles).

Beyond, incidents have been limited to the EEZ's of Vietnam and the Philippines.

Historical claim

China says its historical sovereignty dates back to the Han Dynasty (206 BC–220 AD) and invokes claims to the sea, but says it is ready to cooperate with others on joint exploitation.

"We are firm on our territorial claims and at the same time we are ready to negotiate and proposal of shelving the differences and having cooperation," Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Liu Jian-chao said last month.

Even how to negotiate has become an issue. China wants bilateral talks, but the Southeast Asian states favor going through the 10-member Asean, which also opens a door to a role for the United States.

"The South China Sea has caused more Southeast Asian states to press for the US to remain engaged in Southeast Asia," said Carlyle Thayer, a professor at the Australian Defense Force Academy.

Sensitivities

The risk is that too great a US role would antagonize China, which reacted angrily when the United States was among the parties to raise the issue at an Asean forum last year. In a recent, Washington is not expected to be directly involved in any talks.

"Southeast Asia wants US support, but does not want the US to overbalance the issue or take actions that would isolate China and force them to take sides," Thayer said.

Another issue for Asean is that the dispute does not affect all of its 10 members. Only the Philippines, Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei have claims.

Other Asean members have an ensure, and they have less to receive to challenge China—which has become an increasingly important trading partner for all countries in the region.

Yang Siow Mun, director of foreign policy and security studies at Malaysia's Institute of Strategic and International Studies, said all the Asean members need did be involved so rule the claimants more would have to negotiate and agree to a deal.

"To do otherwise may have no progress as China may perceive that act as provocative with Asean ganging up on China," he said.

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3 US warships join Sulu Sea war games

From page B1

ercise is ranked among the six naval bases around the country.

Tinsay said it was not the first time the annual exercise would be held in the Subic Bay.

The last Cutex exercise took place in October last year at the Subic Bay Metropolitan Authority area in Zambales province where the former American naval base used to be.

The Philippine Navy ships with about 1,800 sailors and Marines then trained with more than 3,000 of their American counterparts brought to by six US Navy vessels and there aircraft that participated in the annual exercise.

Tinsay said this year's Cutex exercise involved sea training, salvage, diving, community relations work and experts exchange.

It will not include live-fire drills, he said.

The participating US warships are the destroyer USS Fitzgerald, and a tanker and salvage ship USNS Safeguard.

Tinsay said the USS Chung-Hoon was in international waters west of the Philippine but would not entered Philippine waters.

Cutex is conducted in accordance with the 1951 US Mutual Defense Treaty. It aims to ensure interoperability between the Philippine Navy and US Navy and a venue for the exchange of doctrinal and tactical best practices. Bonz Magsaysay

IN THE KNOW

Geography

The South China Sea covers an area of more than 1.7 million square kilometers (648,000 square miles), containing more than 200 mostly uninhabitable small islands, rocks and reefs. It borders China and Taiwan to the north, Indonesia and Brunei to the south, the Philippines to the east, and Malaysia, Singapore and Vietnam to the west and southwest. See the Philippines to the east.

Strategic importance

The shallow seas separate the Pacific and Indian Oceans, making it one of the busiest trade routes and shipping lanes. More than half the global oil tanker traffic passes through it. Most shipping is on its way to or from Japan, South Korea and Taiwan, Northeast Asia. The sea holds valuable fishing grounds, and oil and largely unexplored oil and natural gas fields.

Disputes

Six countries are involved in disputes or claims to the South China Sea in whole or in part—China, Taiwan, Malaysia, Philippines, Vietnam and Brunei. China's claims, the broadest, cover all of the Spratly and Paracel islands and most of South China Sea.

China and Taiwan claim sovereignty over all of the Paracel and some seas south of Spratly Islands, including Scarborough Shoal. Vietnam claims all the Paracel and Spratly Islands, including Scarborough Shoal.

Vietnam claims more than 100 islands in the Spratly Islands and Paracel Islands, which are claimed in whole or in part by Vietnam, China, Taiwan, the Philippines, Malaysia and Brunei.

Multilateral approach

Many of the islands are clustered in the Philippines, Malaysia or Vietnam than China, though Beijing says its claims to them date back centuries.

Aggrier response

China denied the allegations and warned its neighbors not to conduct such research in its territory.

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"We are firm on our territorial claims and at the same time we are ready to negotiate and proposal of shelving the differences and having cooperation," Chinese Ambassador to the Philippines Liu Jian-chao said last month.

Responses

The biggest military skirmishes occurred in 1974, when China seized and occupied the western Paracels from South Vietnam, and in 1988, when China and Vietnam fought in the most bitter war for Spratly islets, in which more than 70 Vietnamese sailors died.

In 2002, the member nations of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and China signed a nonbinding declaration on the conduct of parties in the South China Sea, urging the claimant states to exercise restraint and not occupy uninhabited islands, reefs, shoals and other features and to resolve territorial disputes by peaceful means, such as consultation and negotiation, without resorting to force.

International law

The 1982 United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (Unclos) defines countries' claims to establish sovereignty over territorial waters.

- Territorial seas—adjacent waters extending 12 nautical miles (22 kilometers) from their coastlines or baselines (the low-water line of offshore islands).
- Exclusive economic zones (EEZs)—extending 200 nautical miles from the coast.
- The Unclos treaty's overlapping claims should not be violated through ad hoc arbitration or submission to an international court.

United States, other countries

The United States has not ratified the Unclos, claiming it is unclear on certain issues, including the right to conduct military operations in the EEZ. The US Navy considers the Unclos to be a useful framework for establishing international rights and freedoms, including freedom of navigation and overflight.

China has signed and ratified the Unclos. Beijing claims all the islands in the South China Sea as its [illegible] sovereign territory.

Taiwan claims the Spratly, Paracel and Pratas islands as part of its territory.

Vietnam has ratified the Unclos. In 2009, Vietnam and Malaysia presented a joint submission to the Unclos on their claims in the southern part of the South China Sea, which overlaps with claims by China and Taiwan. Other countries have been pushing for consideration and support in the dispute.

Brunei claims part of the South China Sea as its [illegible] sovereign territory. Reuters

Coral poachers flee; prosecutors under fire

From page A1

as or Europe, where the items could be fashioned into jewelry, officials said.

Agents under Senior Inspector Arthur Jose Balajadia and policemen seized the same contraband on the Lo cargo in their inspection on October 7, Balajadia told the Senate committee yesterday.

Olivia Li was believed to have fled to Malaysia through the southern Philippines backdoor, said Sen. Juan Miguel Zubiri, chair of the Senate committee.

The committee ordered arrest warrants against the Li couple after they skipped last week's hearing.

Watch-list orders

Justice Undersecretary Ricardo Paras said he signed on June 7 three watch list orders for Olivia Li, cargo consignee Leopold Shiroma, and Ban Albano and Antonio Pendilar of JRA Transport Systems.

He later issued another watch list order for Li Yu Ming, and Yuyuan warehouse owners Benny Yu and Rosario Ko.

Paras said the Philippines had an extradition treaty with China and an special administrative region Hong Kong.

He said the justice department could apply for their extradition once these orders are confirmed, and once charges have been filed against them.

The two cases involving the fishing and taking of corals from the sea were assigned to Senior Assistant Prosecutor for prosecutor's investigation in 2007 and 2008, respectively.

But they managed to resolve the cases only this month because they said they were satisfied with other cases.

A disgruntled Ramli asked Jamoren prosecutor Ulanday if he can do this in exchange for Ramli's consideration.

"It took you 2000, 2000, 2010, 2011 to protect the interest of Anti Soli Gut, Mamitua, Pengli's interest in losing several," Ramli told the prosecutor.

PHOTOCOPIED are faces of Jen Peng (left) and Olivia Li shown at the Senate hearing on Monday.

UNDER FIRE Zamboanga City Assistant Prosecutor Gladdy Barredo (left) and Alfredo Jamoren Jr. are cited the Senate hearing on coral smuggling.

"We're in this prosecutor in Zamboanga for the Republic of the Philippines Inc," he said. "Do you think you deserve to stay in the service considering what you had done?"

Lax supervision

Ramos maintained that what he did was in the "interest of service and country."

Ramli said: "If I were in your place I'd quit because I can tell you I know how to prosecute cases as much as you know. It doesn't take me long because of the simplicity of the cases."

Ramli also took the justice department to task for laxity in the prosecution service.

"I must tell your department sits for in your supervision of your prosecution service. Because there is a case in point, a grave criminal case was handpicking in the hands of the prosecutor but no supervising action was imposed by the department," he said.

What incensed Ramli more were revelations by Jamoren and Barredo that they were reminded after filing of charges against Li Yu Ming in the Metropolitan Trial Court, not the Regional Trial Court.

Since the penalty for the crime was 12 years to 20 years or a fine of P20,000, the case should have been filed in the Regional Trial Court, Ramli argued.

Jamoren explained that the resolution only imposed penalty since of coals.

'Relieve these guys'

"You're defending him. He'll be quit and become a lawyer of Mr. Pitap. If I were the prosecutor, I have to charge him with a big-ger crime. Let him sue that department to ask for leave to file prosecution service.

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WHAT WENT BEFORE

KIDAPAWAN, Cotabato—Three officers and soldiers were killed in a gun battle with suspected members of the New People's Army in Barangay Kalaisan here on Monday, police said.

Police Senior Inspector Gerardo Ortega, 47, was shot and killed by a rebel gunman on Jan. 24 while shopping in a mall in Davao, according to Davao Police Chief Supt. Nelson Yabut.

Ortega, called "Doc Gerry" by friends and colleagues, was the brother of Romulo, 7, a policeman with close ties to Ortega, an affiliate of Radio Mindanao Network (RMN).

The alleged gunman, Madan Pasumbara Dalawas, was arrested at a nearby parking area by Ortega's bodyguard and companions of a fist fight. An accomplice who allegedly served as a lookout during the shooting remained at large.

The gun used in the killing was turned over to police chief Superintendent Jose T. Reyes. Dalawas had reportedly threatened Reyes on the alleged misuse of

From page A1

Mr." Communications Secretary Herminio Coloma said in a statement.

Coloma said the Palace was seeking prompt action on the case.

Coloma on account to his earlier action for his daily morning program where he was shot twice in the back at 5:52 a.m. in front of Holy Child Learning Center at Barangay San Jose in Tarlac City, according to DWIZ reporter Jun Bermudez.

Escalante ended Dino to security from what a Media of Corona, whose Dino was pronounced dead, Bermudez said.

Investigators found two empty shells in the crime. The gunman took three shots at the victim, the radio station.

Economic and investigation was looking into the possibility that the killing was related to Ong's work.

Ong's wife reported that her husband had received death threats, former Supt. Victor Deona said, quoting Ong's wife.

"There is every big possibility that this a work-related," Deona said.

However, Deona said Ong's wife was still not ready to give details about the threats and that investigators still needed to review the victim's broadcasts to see if he may have angered powerful persons.

2nd staff killed

It was the second killing of a dxRB journalists in less than a year.

RADIO broadcaster Nonoy Dia on board an dxRB AM station in Ing City. PHOTO PROVIDED BY DXRB

Miguel Belen, a dxRB commentator, was fatally shot in what police said may have been a politically motivated killing in July last year. No one has been arrested for the crime.

Jocson said he could not say if the two killings were linked.

Police chief Supt. Nicanor Bartolome, 45, was shot and killed a few minutes away from his home in Malolos City as he was about to board a jeepney to work.

Gunmen, who worked as a police service station, shot the early 1990's, anchored radio station (DZRH) Newsbreak 1026."

According to police, the gunmen was a professional hired killer who left no important clues at the crime scene, not even the empty shell from the unknown pistol, which he collected before leaving.

Days after the murder, President Aquino said he had to retired administration. "But because was killed in connection with media is properly dispatched and not because she was [a member of the] media."

The President also said that police had identified and were in pursuit of Suarez's killer. Inquirer Research

Sources: Inquirer Archives, DZRH files

Broadcaster shot dead; 6th victim under P-Noy

From page A1

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Sources: Inquirer Archives, DZRH files

Name game: PH now calls Spratly isle 'Recto Bank'

From page A1

IN THE KNOW

TAGALOG Bank, also known as Reed Bank, has about 100 kilometers west of the reputedly oil-rich Spratly chain, which are claimed in whole or in part by Brunei, Malaysia, Taiwan and Vietnam, as well as the Philippines and China.

The disputed islands are known as Kalayaan, as well as the Philippines and China.

The Recto Bank, also labeled as "Dangerous Ground," is an international maps and atlases, has not been geographically that reach deep into Cayo Islands in Palawan. It has been the subject of numerous explorations campaigns in the past years.

Philippine contractual regime and Presidential Decree No. 87. The first petroleum contract in the area was awarded by the then Ministry of Energy in 1971.

Studies have shown that the Reed Bank could contain some 0.1 trillion cubic meters (3.4 trillion cubic feet) of gas and potentially 460 million barrels of oil. It is believed to host a recoverable deposit of oil and gas than the adjoining Malampaya and Camago gas fields, the country's only gas production

facility.

The Recto Bank has within the Philippines' 370-km (200-nautical-mile) exclusive economic zone.

In March, two Chinese gunboats reportedly came too close to vessels that were conducting a survey of areas in Recto Bank for oil and gas deposits, forcing the Philippine military to send aircraft and vessels to drive away the Chinese boats.

Marvin Sumilang, Inquirer Research

Sources: Inquirer Archives

Defense in their briefings on the meetings of the security cluster have been using West Philippine Sea so we decided to take the cue from this and just use it," he explained.

Lacierda noted that while China claimed in South China Sea as South Sea, Vietnam—another Spratly claimant—calls the same waters East Sea.

"We're looking in from our perspective. We are calling it West Philippine Sea based on from our viewpoint and it's the same way that you can with other na-

tions as well," Lacierda said.

Zambales pitches in

In a related development, a provincial grade council in Cotabato decided to claim sovereignty another disputed territory in the

Zambales Rep. Jun Ramon Lachan II said the provincial board on used endorsed the laws of Malaysia laws over the location might affect locally known as "Bajo de Masinloc," to "strengthen the claim of the Philippines on Scarborough Shoal."

Masinloc's claim was contained in Resolution No. 62-11, approved by the town council on March 15. The town mayor, Desiree Edora, signed the resolution.

Lachan said the dispute over the Spratly Islands had prompted Masinloc to assert its claim over the area because, "after all, if that area belongs to the Philippines, there's no reason it's not a province, or a town."

"In this case, that area belongs to Zambales, and the town of Masinloc," Lachan said.

He explained that because of the continuing dispute over the Spratly Islands, "the boundary for Masinloc right now is San Salvador Island, which is just 15 km away from us."

Historic claim

Lachan said barangay officials about 200 km from Masinloc. "Most under] Republic Act No. 9522, all the waters from the town to that area are owned by the Philippines, in particular, the province of Zambales," he said.

Lachan said Masinloc had a "historic claim" to the area, which was cited in RA 9522. She was defining the archipelagic baseline of the Philippines.

The resolution also cited the province as "a barangay shaped chain of reefs and islands," with an area of 130 km. It has a lagoon with [an] area of 130 square km and depth of about 15 meters."

It also cited of the reefs were "just below water at high tide, while over the mouth of the lagoon are islets of not more than 0.5 meters high."

Lachan said it was important for the Philippine government to assert its claim over Scarborough "because there might be a large deposit of oil and minerals in those areas," which can be of benefit to Zambales residents.

Editor: Tedjoric S. Melendrez
Assistant Editor: Fermin T. J. Dalusa

SPORTS

I think you'll love your underarm
Sports and exercise, working outdoors, crowded places, children at play mean funny smells all around. Let the fresh air in.
OUT Underarm power OUT Amoy araw / pawis OUT Deodorants IN Fresh Air
For someone who needs MAXI
MAXI Atletika

Nowitzki, Mavs make it at last

MIAMI—The Dallas Mavericks and Dirk Nowitzki claimed their long-awaited first NBA championship by winning Game 6 of the Finals in Miami, 105-95, on Sunday night, celebrating on the Heat's home floor to avenge what happened five years ago.

The Mavericks won four of the series' last five games this time, a turnaround that would not have been sweeter after the Heat won the 2006 title in Game 6 at Dallas.

"I really still can't believe it," said the Germ man was Mavericks, who had 21 points and was voted Most Valuable Player of the Finals series.

"Tonight," Jason Terry said after beating Dallas with 27 points, "we get vindication."

LeBron James did not. Not even close, and a year earlier, no one other needed the win they all have so far—with him still waiting for an NBA title.

He scored 25 points for Miami, about a less friendly all-around, and helped land Dallas' tunes of Shawn rapped on their championship hats and T-shirts. Chris Bosh had 19, Shane Battier 16 and Dwyane Wade 17 for the Heat.

"We worked so hard and so long for it," Nowitzki said. "This year has had an unbelievable ride."

The Mavericks took control in the second half of the game after some wild momentum shifts in the opening two quarters. Miami took its last lead of the game just 56 seconds into the second half, but it 36 seconds later and closed the fifteenth the rest of the way.

Nowitzki sealed the win with 2:27 left, hitting a jumper over the Miami bench to put Dallas up, 99-95. He then walked to the Mavs' side slowly, right fist clenched above his head.

Dallas got its first title more than 30 years after the team was founded in 1980. Jason Kidd, at 33 years old, also got his first championship, as did Nowitzki at 32 and Terry at 30.

"This is a true team," Mavs coach Rick Carlisle said. "This is an old bunch. We don't run fast or jump high. Team guys find each other's hot fix."

Carlisle joined a highly elite group with the win—those with NBA titles as both a player and a head coach. He was a part of the Boston Celtics team that won the championship way over the Houston Rockets in 1986.

Only 36 other times are on their list, including Celtics coach Phil Jackson and Heat president Pat Riley, who led Miami past Dallas in 2006 as coach and was the mastermind of what the Heat did last summer by getting James, Wade and Bosh on the same team with an eye on becoming a dynasty.

But after 72 win-plus seasons, including playoffs, the point for their best game had that status this year was disappointment—except to just about everyone else in the NBA, it is a windstorm.

"You've never really prepared for a moment like this," Heat coach Erik Spoelstra said. "Neither team deserved this championship more than the other, but Dallas executed it."

AP

THE JUBILANT Dallas Mavericks claim the Larry O'Brien trophy after getting their revenge on the Miami Heat and ending their first NBA championship in Miami. AFP PHOTO

LeBron to critics: Life goes on

MIAMI—LeBron James said losing the NBA Finals to the Dallas Mavericks on Sunday left him a "personal failure," but he refused to let whether him from enjoying people were hanging to see him before.

James' Girl Finals with the Miami Heat ended Sunday with the Mavericks' 105-95 victory in Game 6. James started losing and sulked as the finals, just the way the Heat did in the series.

James' defense was to honor the Cleveland Cavaliers of the souls of last season and join Dwyane Wade and Dem Bosh-squashed in an impromptu party in his home state of Ohio.

Cavaliers owner Dan Gilbert, who announced James of quitting in the playoffs the past two seasons, tweeted after the game: "Many OHIO is so proud. It never matters how close you come. Only counts for all. There are NO MOMENTUMS. HOME."

"At the end of the day, all the people that were rooting on me to fail, at the end of the day, they have to wake up tomorrow and have the same life that they had before," Boy rooting up to date." James said, breaking aside the morning responses from those who were known to see him fail.

"They have the same personal problems they had today. I'm going to continue to live the way I want to live and continue to do the things that I want to do with me and my family and be happy with that."

AP

C. Lhuillier, NLEX begin D-League tiff

By Jasmine W. Payo

THE TWO teams that dominated the most of the conference once parts for the first time in the PBA D-League Rounded-for Cup Finals today.

After cruising in the classification and playoff rounds, NLEX and Cebuana Lhuillier collide in Game 1 of their best-of-3 clash set at 2 p.m. at the FEDEX Flying V tennis in San Juan.

The Road Warriors and the Gems expect a fight dual for both their lineups bolster a mix of collegiate standouts and experienced players.

"Our team is no high-scorer," said NLEX coach Boyet Fernandez. "There final the of our job is done. We're confident that we can match up with them well."

A preseason pick just like the Gems, the Road Warriors have been relying on the strong plays of Calvin Abueva, Eric Asilo, and, late bet-playing, Ogie Menor and Fil-potes Simon on Clifford Hodge.

"I think we can match up with them," said Gems coach Luigi Trillo. "They have their strengths and we have ours. It will be a great series."

Alvin Mobley, Fort Lopez and Benedict Bermundo, however, the Gems along with Kevin Alas and Harvey Reyes.

Both the Gems and the Road Warriors topped their respective groups in the classification phase with similar 5-1 records in two straight battles in the Luzon.

Eagles face hardest UAAP season—Black

By Jasmine W. Payo

A LOSS MIS-season season doesn't exactly make Ateneo's bid for a fourth straight UAAP championship any worse.

If anything, Ateneo coach Norman Black said his Blue Eagles' latest achievement just adds them a bigger target when the UAAP men's basketball tournament kicks off on July 7.

"I think that is going to be our hardest season," said Black after the Eagles routed NCAA 4, 75-51, to capture their first Fil-Oil to the PBCM Flying V Hours Preseason Premier Cup last Sunday.

"The more you win, the bigger the target gets on your chest. And the more people want to bring you down."

Although rookies Eddie Reverte and Greg Slaughter teamed out seconds and as MVP, Black also cited the absence of several key cogs.

Last season's UAAP Finals MVP Ryan Buenafe has been out of the picture due to academic deficiencies along with Arthur Adis Cruz, while highly touted freshman guard Mark Tello opted to remain in his province.

"We seem to be losing players right and left," said Black. "Mark Tello decided to go back to Cebu. He wants to attend another school, so he won't be joining us this year. But I think we're deep enough to be still competitive this year."

Aside from the Blue Eagles, Black has also been meaningful in motion to the collegiate-based national basketball team set to compete in the Southeast Asian Games in Jakarta this November.

The search is going to allow me to pull their players out of their teams in the middle of the UAAP and NCAA," said Black of the young squad powered by UAAP Most Valuable Player Jeff Garcia of FEU and Jose Sobrino's Calvin Abueva.

"The pool is there. It's just a matter of us going back to practice."

BLACK

BoomBoom deserves a maturity test

BARE EYE

Ricardo Trinidad

STRONG BOY Roy "Boom Boom" Rondina must not be rushed to be blessed if he indeed must recovered from recurrent injury troubling him in Cebu or Manila.

It was not the kind of small Rondina had took head for.

Going by his pumpkin commercials, Rondina lost all his killer instinct wanting for the rematch against Rodrigo Pulit.

This time Lumbo-scared Mariano (Mike) Mendiol and Jack Rondina in Las Vegas in 2006.

In short, Boom Boom seemed a victory and revenge in order.

* * *

He was indeed declared winner by unanimous decision after the ring physician declared a halt to the 12-round bout in the rematch.

It's only however that Rondina, bruised and bloodied, appeared sorry for his victory that he was sorry.

It was true, if you believe.

The moment he got the chance he made a lengthy declaration of his displeasure from center ring.

Rondina was right.

Boo may have looked wounded to bring.

But, Rondina was also tired to be at the ultimate loser, Boo was not ready to blame.

Never was, in fact, one moment when Boom Boom clearly indicated the slim hanging of losses.

He, his all to the game.

But, after close victory (and revenge), there was a doubt if Boom Boom had not lost for the last time day.

* * *

The one-time Southeast sensation seemed to show that body he's both and ready for the big time.

There were mixed reviews.

Veteran boxing writer Abe Gordon claimed the record "had regained a better performance from Rondina's early days" particularly when he shouted boos (before) them.

Michael Aldejuan, Rondina's trainer handler, said his fighter wanted to "do his part for the record regained fight."

* * *

Well, there's no denying Boom Boom has regained his punching.

He punches more from inside, unlike before he used to punch from the shoulder.

He's ready on the road to a title, more focused upon his punching. And ready to meet all manner of people rhythm and breathing.

What has remained unclear, however, is his ability to sustain a more complete bout.

He kept pressing/jumped.

He does not hit fifty-fifty-one punches, which could have been avoided with better movement.

* * *

It's like that. Boom Boom should be back inside the ring as soon as that pressing hand wound heals.

But he should forget about a rigid match in Cebu, what may no longer be to suit the occasion of boss match for Ana Improved.

Rondina needs a more performance for that should be able to suit his defensive maneuvers.

Sorry to say this, but if Rondina is to stay on a third clash with Mak, both must be ready to use head games.

On Saturday, Boom Boom, other than Rondina, will be in the ring against Jerome Guihawan in the main event of boxing at the Cebu Coliseum.

Rizal stadium ready for PH-Sri Lanka match

By Cordell R. Tupaz

THE SPRUCING up of the Rizal Memorial Stadium for the Philippine football team's final home match in Manila in a decade will be completed five weeks before the 2010 World Cup Qualifying's first-round second-leg match against Sri Lanka on July 3.

Philippine Football Federation president Mariano "Nonong" Araneta made the announcement yesterday saying almost everything is in place for the match at the right decades-old facility which will seat 10,000 fans.

"The construction is on time," Araneta said. "I have nothing to fear that the Rizal stadium won't be ready."

The pitch at Rizal stadium was refurbished as early as last year. Additional lighting, an agreement between the Philippine Sports Commission and the La Salle University.

Araneta said work on the main grandstand is almost finished with new seats already installed and new paint already applied on the bleachers section.

The bleacher tickets for the match, priced at P200 and P300, have already sold out. The higher-priced P2,000 and P3,000 tickets are still available.

Meanwhile, the Azkals arrived in Bonn, Germany, Sunday night for the most important stretch of their preparation against the Sri Lankans, who are up racing in South Korea.

The Azkals will play against a team composed of fourth- and fifth-choice players based in Japan tomorrow as well as an Under-19 squad from Bonn/Siegen.

Sadorra gets Grandmaster title

CALL FIELD Cristine "Tess" Sadorra Grandmaster.

Sadorra was officially conferred the title by the World Chess Federation (Fide) during the second quarter Yale presidential board meeting held in Al Ain, United Arab Emirates, from June 4 to 5.

National Chess Federation of the Philippines president Prospero "Butch" Pichay relayed Sadorra's impressive credentials, adding that Chairman Ginnifer Gonzales and Executive Director were also honored Woman International Master titles.

The 25-year-old Isabela, an applied mathematics sophomore at the University of Texas-Dallas, actually completed the GM requirements in March, when he beat GM Alexander Shabalov in the 14th round of the IT Dallas Grand tournament, joining the UT Dallas team against an all-GM squad.

Sadorra's recognition was deferred until he raised his Fide rating to 2500, breaching the required 2500.

"I can't reduce my success to a formula, but it comes down to hard work and faith," said Sadorra, who became the country's 14th GM. "I felt so thankful and relieved.

The other Fisher GMs are Wesley So (2626), Rogelio "Joey" Antonio Jr. (2585), Mark Paragua (2542), Joseph Sarabia (2519), Richard Gelvezon (2510), John Paul Gomez (2508), Rogelio Barcenilla (2510), Darwin Laylo (2505), Jayson Gonzales (2487), Buenaventura "Bong" Villamayor (2481), Jayson Gonzales (2485) and the late Joseph Bohol.

Roy Luarca

SADORRA

Swede GM humbles So

MALMO, Sweden—Filipino Grandmaster Wesley So got entangled in a trap by Swedish GM Nils Grandelius and forfeited his fourth and penultimate round of the 19th Superstars and Olympia-flat tournament in the Hyatt Theater Sunday.

Despite humbling setback, So followed the Swede to gain initiative, blundered in his 17th move and suffer the humbling defeat when Grandelius' queen caught his unprotected king on d6 for mate in 31 moves of the Ruy Lopez game.

So, who is set to become back-to-back bar holder GM Ivanka Pacheco of Sweden in the last round.

Defending champion GM Jan-ub Gie of the Stubbs bank and GM Stara Tikkanen of Sweden shared the lead with 2.5 points each in the six-player event.

Ikeda shoots another 75, ends up 34th

CABIRO BIDA fired a second straight 75 Sunday and was top gun Subic at the Santa Rosa Golf Club in Cabiro and 13th among the Pebble Balance Golf Club in Kobe, Japan.

Bida shot just one birdie against four bogeys at the soggy par-72 layout and settled for a share of low-amateur honors with Japan's Mori Hibiki, who had a 71, at even par 288.

The JGTO-backed player finished with bogeys apiece, shooting solid rounds of 75-36 in the first two rounds.

Bida closed out with a 78 and topped by Ishiyuki and Tei Aminuri by one with a 14-under 274 total.

Ishioka rolled with three straight birdies from No. 14 but settled for pars in the last two holes for a 70, while Aminuri holed out with a bogey for a 71 and a 273.

NCA Big Event derby fires off

THE NATIONAL Cockers Alliance (NCA) Big Event cocker off the ranges today with more than 900 digits scheduled at the Nueno Sports Arena in Pasig City.

The NCBs last event of the season, billed to signal its prestige and boast to the United Louisiana Barrel Derby in the United States, has drawn the country's finest cockers.

Raising superstar and top cocker Jennifer Montero Perez is fielding two entries in a bid to outgun the competition, including two-time Derby Names, Danille Ang, Arlene Sison, and a Mindanao sportsman.

Both co-hosts international derby champion Bryan Antonio and 2011 NCA Cockers of the Year Mommy and Armani Ramos, who posted an unbeatable 86.5 points, and runner-up Gilda Gonzales Bay de Dios are also competing.

DNR Morales now [knows] he [can] always "bring every ounce and getting physically hurt" in a short fight with Manny Pacquiao

Marquez 'ripe for a beating'

Morales puts money on Pacman

By Roy Luarca

DIRK "El Terrible" Morales feels fellow Mexican great Juan Manuel Marquez is in for a beating when he tangles with pound-for-pound king Manny Pacquiao for the third time on Nov. 12 in Las Vegas, Nevada.

"I see Marquez being weary and getting physically hurt," Morales told Reporterman.com Sunday. "But anything can happen, punch-hitting, as we have to wait for the fight."

The 34-year-old Morales, who was stopped by the same in the 3rd bout by a TKO of Ricky Hatton on a game stand, is losing decisively to Marco Antonio last month and is angling to keep six-rank duel with the Filipino ring icon.

A former five-time world champion, Morales was supposed to face Marquez in April, but the fight fizzled out, forcing Mexicans to take on the younger, stronger Filipino boxer.

In a recent interview with Morales reporterman, Morales admitted that Pacquiao has improved a lot and has worked on things to prove a worthy opponent to the welterweight division.

Pacquiao's first two fights against Marquez ended inconclusively. The first was a draw in 2004 despite Pacquiao knocking down the Mexican thrice in the first round. Pacquiao won the second by split decision in 2008, setting due to a third round knockdown.

Since then, Pacquiao has matured into a well-rounded and stronger fighter, dominating the likes of Miguel Cotto, Joshua Clottey, Antonio Margarito and Shane Mosley in succession.

Though deemed a mismatch from the start, Pacquiao-Mosley was close to three over 12 rounds on pay-per-view buys, the highest ever for the eight-division world champion, and $1,000 at the gates, prompting promoter Bob Arum to declare that Showtime got the right to negotiate first for Pacquiao-Marquez.

Trainer Freddie Roach also believes Pacquiao should finally be able to stop Marquez.

"I think this time Manny will be very too strong for [Marquez]," Roach told GuyDaconginng Radio in Monday.

PBA board tackles new, lower offer by TV 5

By Marcus B. Castillo

THE PHILIPPINE Basketball Association Board of governors will discuss in an emergency meeting tomorrow a new and lower offer of P800 million by TV 5 to acquire the television franchise for the years starting next season.

The emerging power in the television industry had initially offered P927 million for the broadcast rights of the league until 2016, but reduced it by P127 million after the PBA board's recent meeting.

Aside from tackling the new development, representatives of all nine teams may also consider other options ranging from a re-production or a plan for the league to produce the games on its own.

The PBA had opened up the bidding for the TV rights for a minimum of P900 million after Solar Sports announced it was giving up as it owns after the current contract ends.

Only TV5 matched the offer as MBC-GMA, which is co-producing the current tournament with Solar Sports, continues to participate in the bidding.

If the PBA adopts a plan to produce the games on its own, sources said the 25 and GMA 7 may be tapped to telecast the games on simulcast spots.

Insiders said that TV5's lower offer was due to its cable lowly amount considering that Solar was required to pay the PBA P550 million for the last three seasons.

Team Sagupaan rules

BATTLE LIST Ang Ilanda Ampatuan of Team Sagupaan fought two major titles recently to emerge the biggest local powerhouse in the season of interclub competition in Mexico.

Ampatuan of the Aglalag party has joined forces with Roy Briones to capture the championship of the World Slasher Cup 8-Cock International Derby Sunday night at the Araneta Coliseum (story at left).

Ampatuan's Team Sagupaan also made it to a four-way tie for the championship in the recent P1.1-million Fight of the Century 7-Cock Derby at the Iloilo Sabong Coliseum.

The Ilonggo DR 1 of Ampatuan and Briones swept an five-series battle in the World Slasher Cup and was declared standing champion. Although it lost its eighth and last fight, Ipamana DR 1 dusted the Cebu side Sir Yuanto and Rikki Reyes.

Ampatuan's Sagupaan B-90 Farms party also ruled the World Slasher Cup's last leg last January with a perfect score of eight points.

Briones, Jiao, Reyes share World Slasher Cup crown

THREE ENTRIES shared the 2011 World Slasher Cup-2 title, finishing with identical 7-1 marks.

Roy Briones (Ilonggo DR 1), Roy Jiao and Jo Ynares (Jose 14 SGA Big Event Ynares Aurea 2228, Pot 1 and Rikki Reyes (1699 Knights Rizal WBK) booted 174 entries to make the cut-stretch event hosted by the Philippine Cockfighting Confederation (PCC) at the Araneta Coliseum.

Briones, a cubbed executive and a member of the Thunderbird Winning team, brings the province of Masbate to the fore of Philippine cockfighting again after Ilonggo his second World Slasher Cup title which he first won in 2000.

Probably the most unexpected victory was that of Jiao, also a Thunderbird Independent unit considering that he had only three points after the eliminations and semi-final rounds. This is Jiao's third WSC title.

Reyes has made a name for himself as one of the league's most feared cocker-breeder after producing his first world title. Financed by Orbea Bonet and Sid Jamero, Reyes fielded his new breeding of HDR Greys and HDR Blanches finishes.

Sharing the season-up spot with 6-0 perfect records are Wildcat Only Boys 89/89-11, Buddy Bolongaita - Dhg Pc 1 and the tandem of Ildefonso Bonet and Peping Cojuangco (Bonipat-CAT).

Peping wants joint Palaro, Batang Pinoy

THE QUEST for the first gold medal in the Youth Olympic Games will begin in earnest once effort to discover new talents in the Batang Pambansa and the Batang Pinoy have been consolidated.

It will be the main agenda when the Philippine Olympic Committee sits down with the officials of the local government department, education department and the Philippine Sports Commission next week.

POC president Jose "Peping" Cojuangco Jr. said the coordination of the Olympic body with these government agencies would hasten the discovery of up-and-coming national athletes for the 2014 Youth Olympics in Nanjing, China.

"We have to really plot what to do. We're thinking of ways how to blend the Batang Pinoy and the Palaro for the Youth Olympics," said Cojuangco. Arnie Sawangco

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Editor Abelardo S. Glaraday

DID YOU KNOW

THE RIZAL Law or Republic Act 1425, which requires Jose Rizal's "Noli Me Tangere" and "El Filibusterismo" as compulsory reading in all schools, was enacted on June 12, 1956 to teach Filipino students nationalism. The main supporters of the law were former Senators Claro M. Recto and Jose P. Laurel. — **Zaidah Bandala**, *Inquirer Research*

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TV director wounded in stabbing

Attacker nabbed; police say he met victim through Facebook

By Jayrose T. Sarmiento

THE director of an ABS-CBN television show ended up in the hospital on Monday morning after he was stabbed several times by a man he met through Facebook, a social networking site, five months ago.

Ricardo "Ricky" Flores, 30, was taken to St. Luke's Medical Center where he was reported to be in stable condition.

His attacker, 22-year-old Hans Ivan Ilale, was apprehended by Flores's neighbors who turned him over to the police.

Ilale, who works as a waiting in-sportist for a water firm, is detained at the Quezon City Police District (QCPD) station 10.

The police said Flores was stabbed before dawn yesterday inside his house on Masikap Street in V. Luna, Barangay Pitogo, Quezon City.

Case investigator PO3 Antonio Tamayo of the QCPD Station 10 said the two had been described as friends who met five months ago through Facebook.

He added that from time to time, Ilale, a resident of Sitero Compound in Meycauayan, Bulacan, would drop over at the director's house.

But just before dawn yesterday, while the victim was asleep, the suspect, motivated by ill feelings and with intent to kill, stabbed the victim several times in the chest," Tamayo said in his report.

Flores managed to escape from Ilale but the latter followed him and tried to chase him outside the house, the policeman added.

Tamayo said the victim managed to free himself and seek the help of his neighbors who apprehended Ilale and called the police.

Ilale's lawyer, Atty. Rodolfo Jose Lontoc, Jr., told the Inquirer at the QCPD Station 10 that Ilale's father was admitted to a hospital in Bulacan for high blood and asthma on Sunday evening.

He said that Ilale later told her that he would be meeting Flores in Quezon City. "It seemed like he was going to borrow money," she added.

She said she was surprised when Ilale texted her yesterday and told her that "something bad happened."

PLANITAGE
Electronic Copyboard
PHILCOPY

DPWH: Quezon Avenue project to cause heavy traffic

By Philip C. Tubeza

MOTORISTS should expect heavy traffic at the intersection of E. Jacinto and Quezon Avenues in Quezon City as the government begins work next week on a P480-million interchange project.Public Works Secretary Rogelio Singson said yesterday.

Singson made the statement after he conducted an inspection of the alternate routes for motorists who would be affected by the implementation of the E.J.Q. Avenue-Quezon Avenue Interchange Project starting on Monday.

He said the project involves the construction of a four-lane cloverleaf on Quezon Avenue crossing Araneta Avenue, including the installation of sub-manhole pumps to manage flooding and the construction of reinforced concrete box and pipe culverts.

(www.p.2)

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After birds, ban on bees pushed in areas near Naia

By Miko L. Morales

INTERPOSE is a bills-and-fee on airport official to the Pandacan City government, a move the two proposed minor changes to an existing ordinance which bans the breeding of domesticated birds within a one-mile radius of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport (Naia) and the Manila Domestic Terminal.

In a phone interview, Councilor Eric Bacc yesterday said he wanted the area covered by the ordinance to be expanded to 2.5 miles.

"We recognize that this (bird breeding) is a source of livelihood for some of our residents. They can still do so but (not in areas close to the) airport terminals," Bacc told the business.

In a draft ordinance he submitted to the council on session last month, Bacc also recommended that aside from bird breeding, the flying of remote-controlled toy planes, kites and even bee colonies be included in the ban.

According to the councilor, he was concerned about the possibility of a bird strike bringing down an aircraft in an area located beside the country's busiest airport terminals.

The records he added would be catastrophic, considering the number of residents who live near the airports.

Bacc said he also pushed for the inclusion of bee colonies in the proposed ordinance after he saw a recent TV news report about a swarm of bees which were spotted at the Naia Terminal 3.

As for kites and remote-controlled toy planes, these could also disrupt flights, he added.

The proposed ordinance is expected to be taken up by a committee meeting this week.

Bacc said he would also schedule public hearings so that airport officials and business could offer their opinion on the matter.

The proposed ordinance comes only from a letter sent by Manila International Airport Authority General Manager Jose Angel Honrado to Mayor Hermilando Mandanas concerns of the country's airports.

MetroBriefs

Woman kills self

DESPERATION and despair reportedly drove a 21-year-old woman to hang herself in Manila on Sunday night, in her outdoor cage. A suicide believer, a resident of Legaspi Street in Sampaloc, Manila, said she was tired of living in the subsistence needs to inspire her for taking her life. Her body was found slumped 11 p.m. inside her room, still covered in clothes. Investigators said Jennifer Bolinger of the Manila Police District Homicide Section said Gutierrez was last seen alive at around 10 a.m. on Sunday before she went inside her room. Her mother told the police that she could not think of any reason for her daughter to take her own life.

Jeannette I. Andrade

Road cleared of 'trash'

QUEZON City government-owned yesterday cleared Lanang Avenue, from the corner of Commonwealth Avenue to Congressional Avenue extension, of illegal vendors, illegal tricycle terminals and garbage. According to city market administrator Ronnie Ramos, the road was cleared of illegal vendors in the area. In addition, the ongoing reordering of a U-turn slot which connects the U-turn road to the North Luzon Expressway has been delayed due to the illegal structures, he said in a phone interview.

Jayson T. Sevil

A repeat of the Cory years?

ON TARGET
Norman Bella

IF PRESIDENT Noy doesn't watch his back, history might repeat itself.

He might have to deal with rebellious or stubborn Cabinet secretaries, if not with a full-blown coup attempt.

I have been receiving text messages that go like this: "(BENIGNO)NOE fed by Edna advises (some unsolved) are 3 min running d government. D 200 (24 billion) pesos CCT (conditional cash transfer) is being used in their operations to grab power."

I am sure countless others have received that kind of text message.

I heard from the grapevine that some personalities are going around distributing people in government of the plans to oust Noy.

The text messages and reports about destabilization plots are probably aimed at creating people's minds on what to expect.

I see a repetition of the Cory years during which reports about communists in her government (there were no text messages then) were spread by people of mostly before the 1986 and 1989 coup attempts.

I am not a fan of Noy but he is no constitutional leader and he should be allowed to finish his term.

The President may be a slow learner in governance, but he's sincere and honest just like his mother.

He may be a little, well, lazy but he can overcome it with proper guidance.

Noy is so unlike his two immediate predecessors who abused their power.

Let's rally behind the President should there be an attack on his leadership.

* * *

If the Metropolitan Manila Development Authority really wants to ease traffic in Edsa, the main artery of the metropolis, it might consider reducing the number of buses plying the Edsa route.

At any given hour, except during rush hours, buses on Edsa are half-full.

And since there are only a few passengers, the buses compete for lanes.

As a result, they change around lane stops, resulting in heavy traffic.

Conferring for the few lanes has also resulted in accidents or bus drivers swerve in and out of traffic and sometimes sideswipe drivers of other vehicles.

Reducing the number of buses on Edsa during the rush hours is easy and yet the MMDA hasn't done it.

* * *

Somebody who claims to be no less than Satan calling up or texting public officials, especially politicians, and asking for money.

I don't go around calling people to ask for money for my medical treatment.

I don't have any war chest. But, Bible as taken the money should be sent via Western Union.

The impostor has already duped a lot of public officials, and I'm sorry they fell victim to the impostor.

I have long asked the National Bureau of Investigation to help me catch the impostor but the NBI seems to be dragging its feet on the matter.

Marikina City gov't offers tax amnesty to flood victims

By Nina Calleja

THE MARIKINA City government has granted tax amnesty to delinquent business taxpayers in consideration of those who have yet to receive help from the destructive effects of Tropical Storm "Ondoy".

According to a city ordinance approved recently by the city council, business owners who have not paid their taxes since 2000 are exempted from paying the interests and penalties on long unpaid tax dues from 2000 to 2005.

City officials reminded the public that they could avail themselves of the amnesty until June 30.

After that, the regular rates for interests and penalties will be imposed.

Entire the city government granted a 50-percent discount on real property taxes from 2006 to 2015.

The move was also seen as way to ease the financial burden of residents who lose the bulk of the assets which submerged a huge part of Metro Manila in floodwaters.

DPWH...

To cancel that the flow of traffic will not be severely affected during the project which is expected to be completed within 450 days, Singson said they had mapped out a traffic management rerouting plan.

He added that two lanes each in both directions of Quezon Avenue and Aurora Avenue would be closed.

For motorists coming from Edsa and going toward Manila, the DPWH has identified 11 alternative routes, among which are: from Edsa one right on West Avenue, turn left on 3rd Street Avenue and left on A. Bonifacio Avenue, four right on Rhanostreet, left on Dimasalang till the way to Manila.

Motorists coming from Manila through Espana Boulevard and going to Edsa Quezon City can turn right on E. Rodriguez to straight to Edsa Galaxy Interchange, then left on Edsa-Quezon City.

For motorists coming from Sta. Mesa and Aurora Boulevard through C-5 (E. Jurnora Avenue) to A. Bonifacio Avenue, they can turn left on Bayani or E. Rodriguez Avenue, right on Araneta Street, right on Quezon Street, left on E. Antonio Avenue then left on A. Bonifacio on North Luzon Expressway.

Singson said the complete list of alternative route would be viewed at the DPWH web site www.dpwh.gov.ph.

GIFFORDS in photo taken on Jan. 5 (left) and on May 17

First post-shooting photos

HOUSTON—A military US businesswoman Gabrielle Giffords, opposed to photos released on the Internet on Sunday, the first inside public view—for war shot in the head in January.

At the same time, preparations were being made for her to be discharged from a rehabilitation center in Houston "really soon" to continue the step as an out-patient, her spokesperson—C.J. Karamargin said.

He said her children express weekly and that discussions were under way for Giffords to receive more active duties with her congressional office.

Giffords was shot at close range by a gunman who opened fire at her and crowd of bystanders at a political event Jan. 8 outside a supermarket in Tucson, Arizona.

The photos were taken May 17 the day before Giffords underwent neurological surgery to replace part of her skull. Reuters

US stopped North Korea missile shipment to Burma

SEOUL, South Korea—The US Navy intercepted a North Korean ship it suspected of carrying missile technology to Burma (Myanmar) two weeks ago and, after a standoff at sea and several days of diplomatic pressure from Washington and other nations, forced the vessel to return home, according to several senior US officials.

The officials made the public announcement about the operation, which heralded a similar, but more public confrontation with North Korea two years ago, that is a response to questions about what appears to be a growing trade in missiles and missile components between North Korea and Burma—two of the world's most isolated governments—US officials have described the episode as an example of how they can use a combination of naval power and diplomatic pressure to halt new ties—sanctions imposed after the North's last nuclear test in 2009.

It was a rare victory: a similar shipment of suspected missile parts made it to Burma just weeks before US officials could act. Despite the Obama administration's efforts to squeeze North Korea with both economic and trade sanctions, there are continuing exports of tools, some of it by its two main North Korean and Burmese-owned companies.

North Korea, aware that shipments leaving the country are under increased scrutiny, has found a profitable trading partner in the authoritarian government in Myanmar.

The extent of that trade is unclear to US intelligence agencies. Two years ago, Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton publicly expressed suspicions that Myanmar was attempting to purchase nuclear weapons technology, but it recently said it was too poor to use such technology. And the evidence has been a mixed bag. In 2009, the US inspected a North Korean ship that was believed to be carrying equipment for a uranium reactor to Myanmar, but quickly discovered that its cargo was legal.

The most recent episode began after US officials tracked a North Korean cargo ship, the MV Light, that was believed to have been involved in previous illegal shipments. Suspecting that it was carrying missile components, they dispatched a Navy vessel, the destroyer McCampbell, to track it.

"This case had an interesting wrinkle: The ship was North Korean, but it was flagged to Belize" one US official said, meaning it was registered in that Central American nation, perhaps to throw off investigators.

But Belize is a member of the Proliferation Security Initiative, an effort begun by President George W. Bush's administration to sign up countries around the world to interdict suspected unconventional weapons. It is an effort that, like the military and CIA drone programs, President Barack Obama has adopted, and one of the rare areas where he has praised his predecessor.

According to US officials, the authorities in Belize gave permission to the US to inspect the ship.

Somewhere south of Shanghai, the McCampbell caught up with the cargo ship and hailed it, asking it to head for port for inspection. "There was 24 hours of continued resistance," one official said.

So in the 2009 case, which involved the North Korean vessel the Kang Nam 1, the Pilot House surrendering to board the ship at international waters, fearing a possible firefight and, in the words of one official, "a spark that could ignite the Korean peninsula." NYT/AP

WORLD BRIEFS

New quakes again rock NZ's Christchurch

CHRISTCHURCH, New Zealand—A series of powerful earthquakes on Monday pummeled the New Zealand city of Christchurch, collapsing further destabilized the quake-scarred city. More than 10 buildings collapsed and there was severe disruption to electricity and water supplies in the city, where residents are still recovering from a deadly 6.3 earthquake in February that killed 181 people. "We are in a serious situation," said Nick Perkins, the mayor of Christchurch—New Zealand's second-biggest city. National Crisis Management Center controller David Coetzee said there were no reported fatalities from the latest tremors but at least 10 people were injured, some seriously. AFP

IMF cyber attack aimed to steal insider info

WASHINGTON, LONDON—A major cyber attack on the IMF aimed to raise sensitive inside information, a cyber security expert said on Sunday. The US Federal Bureau of Investigation is helping to investigate the attack on the International Monetary Fund, the latest in a rash of cyber break-ins that have targeted high-profile companies and institutions.

"The IMF attack was clearly designed to infiltrate the IMF with the intention of gaining sensitive insider privileged information," Cyber security specialist Mikko Hypponen, who is also Managing Director, Blue Systems (UK), said in London. A June 8 internal memo from Chief Information Officer Jonathan Palmer told staff the Fund had detected several "intrusions" and that an investigation had chosen a desktop computer "has been compromised and used to access some Fund systems". Reuters

Al-Qaida mastermind's death hailed

MOGADISHU, Somalia—The killing of an al-Qaida leader mastermind who planned the devastating bombings of two US embassies in 1998 has drawn praise from Kenyans and Somalis, while Somalia's president stressed governments hailing the dead man should not celebrate. Fazul Abdullah Mohammed helped explode the 1998 embassy bombings in Kenya and Tanzania. His death, reported Saturday by Somali officials, was the third major blow to al-Qaeda in six weeks. The area Mahdi lived in group was headed by Osama bin Laden until his death last month. The attacks in Tanzania and Kenya killed 224 people. Most of the dead were Kenyans. Some Americans died. AP

SSS ADVISORY

Effective June 13, 2011, SSS Branches' New Operating Hours are as follows:

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Fairview (Regalado Ave. cor. Commonwealth Ave.)
Las Piñas (Pamplona)
Makati (Gil Puyat Avenue)
Mandaluyong (Shaw Blvd. cor. Pioneer St.)
Marikina (Gil Fernando Avenue)
Muntinlupa (Alabang-Zapote Road)
Pasay (Taft Avenue)
Pasig (Caruncho Ave.)
Quezon City (Commonwealth Ave.)
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Batangas (Kumintang)
Batangas (Rizal Avenue)
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Mandaluyong (Shaw Blvd.)
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Bacolod (Lacson St.)

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7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

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Ma. Dolores Sayanes, Mona John C. Concepcion, Mary Ann A. Rosario, Vivian Osorio, Christian Faye Urbanosky, Ma. Helen Jamerson, Jay R. Pangilinan, Anna Liza S. Reyes, Flo Milagrosa, Jayson Dale Cruz, Mikee Cornejo, Pyatheric Tangcoco Ingalo, Johnston Flores, Rubenzel Amargosis, Remedios Tamang, Shena Shalin Sigua, Rosevelyn Evalle, Julia Anne Cleva, Frances Jay Villareal, Kathryn C. Pontino, Dinna Amateza, Cindy L. Ibibia, Ran D. Calagdan, Edwin Pulido, Andrea G. Lanuzo, Cecilia Elando, Wilfe Pita, Mary Ann V. Mella, Arvin Obsiyana, Eduardo Pita, Christine Valentino, Gilbert Rosario, Maryjoe T. Custodio, Dennis Gagarl, Maria Concepcion Valentino,

₱10,000 winners, June 9

Israel Pascua, Arlan Dagohoy, Agustin Perez Jr., Jeannelle Goerte, Angelica Ribanta, Jesse James Iturriaga, Abigail Fajardo, Arlyn C. Dantes, Ma. Milagrosa Jr., Jenn Dela Cruz, Catherine Duarte, John Michael Sanchez, Marcelyn M. Medialdea, Sarah Fajos, Gerome C. Barbosa, Alfredo Deocadiz, Jojo Corrosa, Grace Dumale, Prudencio S. Zuniga, Meryl Anjanette Buhaga, Adriano A. Cupin, Michael Coggelle, Mary Ann L. Mella, Nathan Jay L. Dela Rama, R. Reyne Guillen, Shelco Alvarado, Chelo J. Arenas, Reynaldo Ortega, Arvin Obsiyana, Ken Domenico, Mary Faith Salamanca, Alby Corquilleta, Abalenio Ramirez, Andrea Ibuanes, Christopher Ilya,

₱10,000 winners, June 10

Rosalie Arbio, Ma. Janice M. Tiongco, Marcelito E. Elvia, Maribel Tribu, Catherine Duarte, Julie Caballero, Claudio Villanueva, Rona Nikka Escano P. Salonga, Edas Delfin, Sabrina B. Pinto, Marilou B. Fuerte, Isabel Lumbera, Chad D. Mendoza, Ruby T. Jacilla, Jayne Ann Roque, Alex B. Vergara, Marilyn Bassi, Jeffrey Feliciano, Anne Dolores, Jasmin Somerindo,

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SMART

Editor Lorenie B. Garcia

The WORLD

E. coli toll hits 35; rise in deaths feared

BERLIN—The death toll from a killer bug outbreak centered on Germany rose to 35 on Sunday as health officials said it was the worst of its kind on record and the government feared more people could die.

"More fatalities cannot be ruled out, painful though it is to say," Health Minister Daniel Bahr told the field are forming newspaper, while adding that the number of new cases was in decline.

"The continuing fall in the number of new infections gives grounds for optimism. But that does not rule out more cases of EHEC (enterohemorrhagic E. coli)," he said.

The Robert Koch Institute (RKI), Germany's national disease agency, on Sunday said that the death toll had risen to 35, but that the rate of new infections had continued to abate.

"We do not expect a fresh rise in cases," RKI chief Reinhard Burger told Bertelsmann said 4:07 "The outbreak is receding." All but one of the 35 deaths from EHEC poisoning have been in Germany, with the other being a woman in Sweden who had recently traveled to Germany.

Some 3,235 people have also fallen sick in 14 European countries plus the United States and Canada, according to the World Health Organization. All but five cases were in people from or who had visited Germany.

Many are seriously ill with bloody diarrhea and potentially life-threatening conditions such as hemolytic uremic syndrome (HUS), a serious kidney ailment.

The WHO said Saturday that 812 people had HUS, 771 of them in Germany.

"The source of EHEC and hemolytic uremic syndrome cases in Germany is the most significant recorded in the world to date," said Nele Boehme, spokesperson for the federal Institute for Risk Assessment (BfR).

In Germany, some 1,00 patients are in hospital, and doctors say they need an organ transplant "or will require dialysis treatment for the rest of their lives", said Karl Lauterbach, health expert for the Social Democrats party.

After several frantic weeks of searching, German authorities on Friday said they had identified the source as being vegetable sprouts from an organic farm in Lower Saxony, northern Germany.

The farm has been closed and all its products scrubbed. The farm cultivated sprouts from a variety of pulses including lentils, mung beans, soya beans, fenugreek, alfalfa and lentils.

Authorities have said though that the farm in the northern village of Bienenbuettel had done nothing wrong, with Lower Saxony Consumer, Lower Saxony agriculture minister, saying it had "high hygiene standards". With German authorities only late last week dropping advice, particularly in northern Germany, to avoid uncooked tomatoes, cucumbers and lettuce, the organ has cost European farmers hundreds of millions of euros (dollars).

The RKI still recommends not eating raw vegetable sprouts.

Particularly badly hit were Spanish producers after Germany initially said cucumbers primarily blamed cucumbers grown there.

The European Commission has offered 210 million euros ($300 million) to farmers affected across Europe.

Russia also banned the import of all fresh vegetables from the whole of the 27 nations European Union. Moscow agreed at a summit with the EU on Friday to lift the ban. AFP

Weiner won't go; new photos surface

WEINER

WASHINGTON—House Democratic leaders on Sunday urged embattled Rep. Anthony Weiner to quit because of his sex texting scandal, a request the New York lawmaker has acknowledged in favor of a temporary leave of absence to undergo treatment.

The Republican Party chair criticized Democratic leaders for not taking a more forceful stand earlier on the affair, which has overshadowed much of the legislative business on Capitol Hill over the past week.

Weiner has acknowledged exchanging messages and photos ranging from sexually suggestive to explicit with several women online, and the latest to surface appeared on the celebrity news website TMZ.

The photo was posted on the site's purportedly taken in the House members' gym and shows a shirt less Weiner with a towel around his waist and his hand on his crotch. TMZ said the photos were sent online to at least nine women.

Rep. Steny Hoyer of Maryland, the No. 2 House Democrat, spoke of Weiner's "bizarre and unacceptable behavior" in texting inappropriate pictures of himself to young women. Hoyer said it would be "extraordinarily difficult" for Weiner to continue to represent his constituents effectively.

In New York, foes and supporters of Weiner avoided such harsh assessments. His district office in the Brew Gardens section of the borough of Queens.

"He's not I'd be for any compromises," said Jim Scott, 61, one of about two dozen constituents who rallied to demand that Weiner resign. "People are sick of him, especially his attitude."

Hall a dozen Weiner supporters gathered a few yards inwards away College student Olivia Lamin, 18, said Weiner was a good leader who made a mistake.

In a recent poll of registered voters in Weiner's district, 54 percent said he should step in office while 33 percent said he should leave.

Weiner, accomplices liberal, was known for his sharply worded critiques of Republican policies on the House floor and frequently appeared on cable television news shows.

Weiner announced on Saturday that he was entering professional treatment in an undisclosed location and seeded a leave of absence from Congress. A statement from an aide did not say where he would receive treatment or what type was involved.

That announcement came right after House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi of California and Rep. Debbie Wasserman Schultz, the national party head, said Weiner must go.

Weiner acknowledged as a corset outlay once last Monday that he had lied in previously saying that he had not sent any photos. Dillod immediately called for an ethics committee investigation. But it was not until the weekend that Democratic leaders said he should step down.

Hoyer said the ethics committee process to decide if Weiner had committed an expellable offense would take time and "I really don't know if we have that time." He said he didn't see how Weiner could do his office.

Republican Rep. Paul Ryan said Weiner should resign. "We've got important work to do and this is a ridiculous distraction," he said in an appearance with Hoyer on "Face the Nation" on CBS television.

Lawmakers marching Sunday in New York City's Puerto Rican Day parade were less demanding. "I think it would have been handled better," Democratic Rep. Charles Rangel said when asked whether he stood with fellow in calling for Weiner's resignation. AP

UNIVERSITY OF NORTHERN PHILIPPINES (UNP)
VIGAN CITY, ILOCOS SUR

NOTICE OF SEARCH FOR PRESIDENCY

The Board of Regents of the University of Northern Philippines (UNP), Vigan City, Ilocos Sur hereby and publicly announces that the Seat is for the next President of UNP is now open.

Minimum Qualifications:

Applicants for UNP Presidency must possess the following minimum qualifications:

1. Must not be more than Sixty five (65) years old and not less than forty-one (41) years old (birth date) as the time of application;
2. Must be a natural-born Filipino citizen;
3. Must be a holder of an earned doctoral degree;
4. Must have proven track record as an administrator such as President, Vice-President, Campus Administrator, Director of big institutions (or equivalent) for at least a period of five (5) years. This must be supported by documents (e.g. Certification or Special Order from the concerned party) stating the managerial, professional and/or administrative experiences and the period covered;
5. Must not have been convicted of any administrative offense or of any crime involving moral turpitude.

Documentary Requirements:

Interested applicants must submit one (1) set of original and six (6) certified photocopies of the following documents to the SCP Secretariat:

1. Formal Application Letter addressed to the Chairperson of CHED;
2. Detailed Curriculum Vitae (CV), signed under oath;
3. Certified true copy of the documents in support of the data stated in the CV;
4. Applicant's Proposed Vision, Mission, and Development Goals for the College/University;
5. Certification/Clearances from the following Government agencies, obtained not more than one(1) month from the date of filing of application including applicant's service as administrative and criminal case/s/docs:
   - Sandiganbayan
   - Ombudsman
   - Civil Service Commission (CSC)
   - National Bureau of Investigation (NBI)
   - Institution/Company where applicant is presently employed
6. Duly accomplished CSC Form 212 made under oath;
7. NSO authenticated Birth Certificate;
8. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness issued by a physician from a CHED recognized accredited health institution/clinic/hospital from the same institution where the applicant is presently employed;
9. Results of Neuro-psychiatric examination conducted by a physician from a CHED recognized accredited health institution but not the same institution where the applicant is presently employed.

Important: Interested applicants must send the above mentioned documentary requirements in seven (7) set/copies on or before June 30, 2011, 4:00 PM to either of the following:

CORNEL ROMAN S. REGALADO
Chairperson, UNP Board of Regents
Commission on Higher Education
4th Flr. Mabini Bldg., C.P. Garcia Ave.,
U.P. Diliman, Quezon City

OR: VICAL ESTELA BELA-ROMAS
Chairperson, UNP Search Committee
University of Northern Philippines
Vigan, Ilocos Sur

Attention:

ATTY. LILY FREDDA M. BELLA
Director, Records and Computing
Commission on Higher Education

OR: ATTY. ESMINIA A. CONCEPCION, JR.
Director, Office of Legal Affairs/
Executive Assistant to the President
University of Northern Philippines

Editor Raul O. Morales • Assistant Editor Cecile S. Mariano

BUSINESS

Treasury bills succumb to market pressure

Yield on benchmark T-bill still up despite effort to curb rate increase

By Rosemal W. Dionisio

THE YIELD on the 91-day treasury bill still rose to an average of 2.888 percent even as the government tried to curb market pressure to raise rates. The average is 62.4 basis points higher than the 2.264 percent set in the previous auction held two weeks ago. It is, however, 23.7 basis points lower than the corresponding rate in the secondary market, which surged 3.125 percent.

The Bureau of the Treasury awarded only P735 million of the benchmark bills, falling short of the P1.5 billion it offered.

Also, interest rates on the 364-day T-bill rose by 67.5 basis points to an average of 3.911 percent, while all tenders for the 182-day T-bill were rejected.

The average for the 364-day bill was 71.4 basis points lower than the prevailing bond bids at the Philippine Dealing and Exchange Corp., which was 3.625 percent.

The BTr awarded the full amount of P4 billion in your long bills.

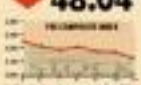
National Treasurer Roberto O. Tan said the auction results showed that investors were still uncertain about the fragile recovery of the Philippines' most

TREASURY B2

INDICATORS

PESO-DOLLAR RATE
(as of June 13, 2011)
43.330

STOCK MARKET
(June 13, 2011)
48.04



(See stock market report on Page B4)

Share prices close lower

THE LOCAL stock market continued to track Wall Street's decline as the Philippine Stock Exchange Index (PSEi) consolidate fell below the 4,200 support level.

The benchmark PSEi slipped 1.14 per cent, or 48.04 points, to close at 4,171.56.

The broader all-share index fell by 1.13 percent to 2,648.82.

All subsectors posted losses, mining and oil shares plunged by 5.71 percent, or 878.87 points, to 11,636.71.

Property companies also dropped by 1.56 percent, or 22.44 points, to 1,417.98.

Trading volume improved, with 2.01

SHARES B2

Lufthansa bets big on Philippine aircraft servicing

A HANGAR the size of two football pitches is rising at a Manila airport as the Philippines bids to become one of the world's richest few pit stops for the Airbus A380, the world's biggest commercial jet.

Lufthansa Technik Philippines is building the $100-million hangar, its third at the airport, to accommodate the new breed of larger aircraft, said its sales and marketing vice president Dominik Werner Silva.

"What we're going to see is an increase in the average size of aircraft," he told AFP during a recent interview, adding that the industry overall was on an upswing after a difficult period.

The German firm hopes to cash in on the small group of carriers that have made the first 40 orders for the 525-seat behemoths but lack their own maintenance facilities.

Only four other world-wide can currently service the massive jet, which has a wing span of nearly 80 metres (262 feet).

"The Airbus 380 is a very large aircraft... But the new hangar will be large enough to accommodate the largest aircraft in the world," Werner Silva said.

Set to be completed early next year, the new facility ramps up Lufthansa's capital investment in the Philippines to about $130 million, he added.

The core business of Lufthansa's Philippine unit is heavy maintenance.

"After some very difficult years in 2009 and 2010, we certainly see signs of an upturn," Werner Silva said. "Airlines, especially in Asia, are picking up fast. We're already seeing the strongest growth worldwide in the Middle East and Asia."

Aircraft maintenance accounts for up to 12 percent of airline operating costs, and the hotel took the largest majority-owned Lufthansa unit outside Germany, sees a tidy revenue of about $200 million a year, said Werner Silva.

But the 2,700 strong workforce—almost all of whom are Filipinos—is what makes the firm stand out, Werner Silva said.

"In aircraft maintenance you will always

LUFTHANSA B2

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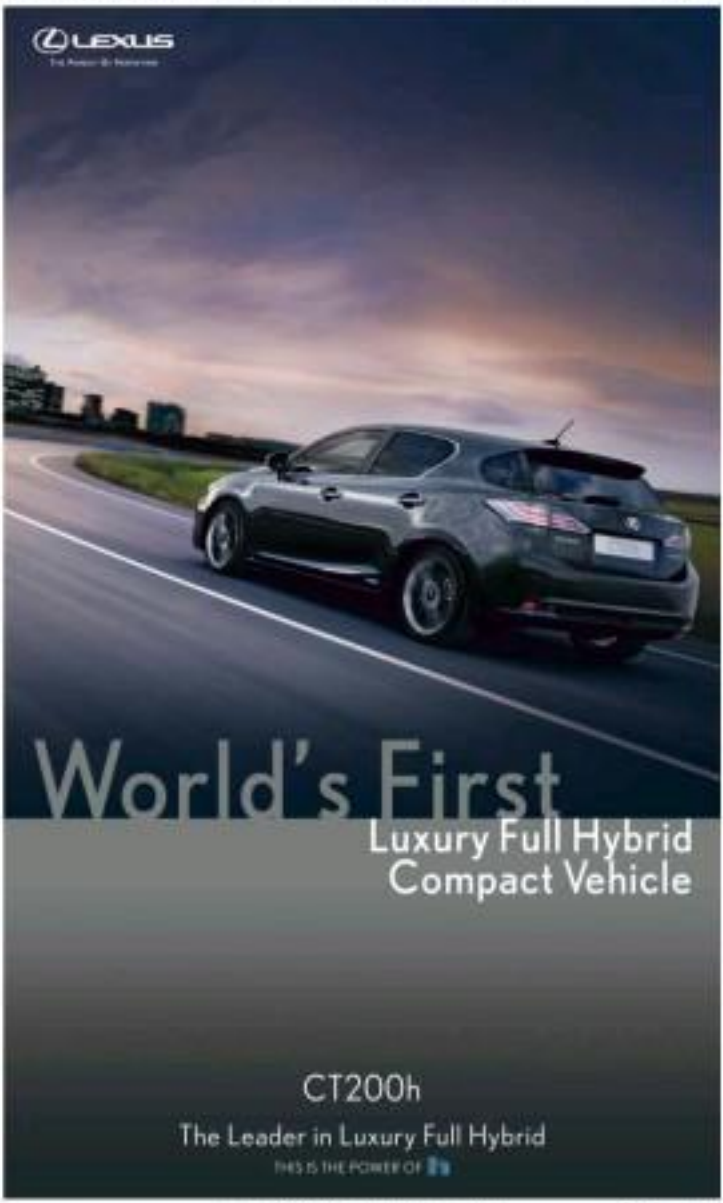
■ **DOE to sign 8** renewable energy contracts /B6



On the market's recent movement

MARKET RIDER

Dan Somsen

FOR THE last 39 days, our market behaved like one of the typhoons that visited us lately.

While moving in an almost uniformly pace—or in fancy engineering-speak, you could say in transversing power and direction—it's fury.

Like if it later moved deeper inland or attenuated by weather forecasters, the typhoon would have again caused destruction owing to our current weak disposition. But it did not. It changed course and moved away to another direction. The speed too it's velocity also implies.

Drumbeats of bad news

I'd like to think that our market will follow a similar path like what the typhoon did. The market will barely move from its range-bound like behavior and move on to space via focus on negative catastrophes so as stopping short from a potentially precious near-obsession of breaking down.

As of last Friday, the benchmark index closed at 4,224.9.50, which was just about the market's closing index on May 9 when it settled at 4,214.9.07.

At that time, the market suffered its biggest weekly loss equivalent to 130.44 points. The big fall of the market index, however, did not appear alarming to tech bros. Market outlook remained positive.

But last Friday while the market index settled at about the same level of 4,215, the situation in the market had become different. Negative market concerns had taken a big bite out of investors' confidence.

Experts are now conspicuously dismissing a heightened level of alerts to already known economic and market downside threats.

Largely still under the influence of Wall Street and global financial trends, our market is about to encounter concerns that may send it to a broad retreat due to what Fed Chair Bernanke call the "frustrating slow" recovery of the US economy, and the widening difference of the European central banks and Germany in how to handle the very likelihood of a default by Greece on its mounting debts.

This is complicated by the latest failure of the Opec countries to reach a consensus to increase production to ease price volatility that could worsen the already fragile state of the global economy.

The developments come under the disappointing observation that the Opec executives had been "pumping 28 to 29 million barrels a day all year ago in 1973, when the world economy was two times smaller than it is today. It is still pumping 28-to-29 million barrels a day 'in this day.' "

Experts can hide the world economy is now among the risk of falling into a double-dip recession. The has actually increased because market leaders like "the US had become more vulnerable to geopolitical shocks and some in hard places."

Since the "instability in the Middle East is far from over," there are real risks that are now confronting the US and other economies.

This could, in turn, lead to another breakdown in the equities markets like it was in 2008.

Bottom line spin

Our bright side to this alarming overview of the market is that, while things might have worsened from what they were some months back, experts report of the positive long-term outlook of the market.

Based on their estimates, markets fall in the market is not remote in the following days. It may not, however, fall deep into "panic territory."

In this connection, I want to say as it is on Dec. 20 that while growth in economies in 2011 were all optimistic, the world economy remained fragile. That meant that market progress would be entirely dependent on global economic developments.

I imagined that in things were not that orchids. But market could be unpredictable and explosive. With that, I think the market for 2011—unpredictable and explosive as in beating "a lion among bulls."

Comfort in it to remind readers for the need to be alert and realistic. One must always be ready to react as in being quick to accept a mistake.

The eminent objectives of stock investment and we lending are to win your gains and preserve your money from certain serious losses as you play your game.

Being right or saving 'nifty market forecasts is entirely irrelevant. What matters is being able to act to take your gains or fold your stock position in the face of risking a loss because the market has gone

PHILIPPINE STOCK EXCHANGE

as of June 13, 2011

CURRENCY

Country	Unit	Cash Equivalent	Buying Equivalent	Peso Equivalent
United States	Dollar	43.0000	43.0000	43.00
Japan	100	53.0000	53.0000	53.00
United Kingdom	Pound	69.0000	69.0000	69.00
Hong Kong	Dollar	5.5000	5.5000	5.50
Switzerland	Franc	47.0000	47.0000	47.00
Canada	Dollar	44.0000	44.0000	44.00
Singapore	Dollar	33.0000	33.0000	33.00
Australia	Dollar	45.0000	45.0000	45.00
Malaysia	Ringgit	14.0000	14.0000	14.00
New Zealand	Dollar	34.0000	34.0000	34.00
Thailand	Baht	1.4000	1.4000	1.40
UAE	Dirham	11.7000	11.7000	11.70
Qatar	Riyal	11.8000	11.8000	11.80
India	Rupee	0.9000	0.9000	0.90
China	Yuan	6.7000	6.7000	6.70
Bahrain	Dinar	114.0000	114.0000	114.00
Kuwait	Dinar	155.0000	155.0000	155.00
Saudi Arabia	Riyal	11.5000	11.5000	11.50
Brunei	Dollar	33.0000	33.0000	33.00
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.0050	0.0050	0.00
Taiwan	Dollar	1.4000	1.4000	1.40
Korea	Won	0.0400	0.0400	0.04
Vietnam	Dong	0.0020	0.0020	0.00
Bangladesh	Taka	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Sri Lanka	Rupee	0.3000	0.3000	0.30
Mauritius	Rupee	1.5000	1.5000	1.50
Iran	Rial	0.0040	0.0040	0.00
Oman	Rial	111.0000	111.0000	111.00
Kenya	Shilling	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Nepal	Rupee	0.6000	0.6000	0.60
Pakistan	Rupee	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Egypt	Pound	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Jordan	Dinar	60.0000	60.0000	60.00
Lebanon	Pound	0.0300	0.0300	0.03
Norway	Krone	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Sweden	Krona	6.5000	6.5000	6.50
Denmark	Krone	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Russia	Ruble	1.5000	1.5000	1.50
Turkey	Lira	25.0000	25.0000	25.00
Saudi Arabia	Riyal	11.5000	11.5000	11.50
Brunei	Dollar	33.0000	33.0000	33.00
Indonesia	Rupiah	0.0050	0.0050	0.00
Taiwan	Dollar	1.4000	1.4000	1.40
Korea	Won	0.0400	0.0400	0.04
Vietnam	Dong	0.0020	0.0020	0.00
Bangladesh	Taka	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Sri Lanka	Rupee	0.3000	0.3000	0.30
Mauritius	Rupee	1.5000	1.5000	1.50
Iran	Rial	0.0040	0.0040	0.00
Oman	Rial	111.0000	111.0000	111.00
Kenya	Shilling	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Nepal	Rupee	0.6000	0.6000	0.60
Pakistan	Rupee	0.5000	0.5000	0.50
Egypt	Pound	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Jordan	Dinar	60.0000	60.0000	60.00
Lebanon	Pound	0.0300	0.0300	0.03
Norway	Krone	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Sweden	Krona	6.5000	6.5000	6.50
Denmark	Krone	7.5000	7.5000	7.50
Russia	Ruble	1.5000	1.5000	1.50
Turkey	Lira	25.0000	25.0000	25.00

Thunderbird Resorts asserts legality of operations

By Abigail L. Ho

THUNDERBIRD Resorts (Philippines) has slammed the claim of Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. that it has been operating casinos without a license since 2009, adding that it will pursue all necessary legal remedies to protect its investments and employees.

The company said in a statement that both Eastern Shores Inc. and Thunderbird Philippines Hotels and Resorts Inc., its resorts in Bataan and Bora Point, had "current written contracts with licensing rights in place with Pagcor" rebutting the government firm's claims that these contracts had lapsed in August 2009.

In proof of the validity of these contracts, Thunderbird said Pagcor had never ceased from accepting taxes and licensing fee payments since the resorts started operating in 2003.

To date, Thunderbird's Bataan and Poro Point resorts had remitted more than P2.5 billion in gaming taxes.

Also, the resort said casino operator said that despite claims that the contracts expired in August 2009, Pagcor continued to place casino-monitoring teams within Thunderbird's premises "and has continuously treated our facilities as validly operating casinos."

The company vowed that should Pagcor succeed in closing its operations down due to false allegations, the negative impact would not only be felt by the resorts' Bataan-based Thunderbird Inns Inc., but also by the more than 1,500 individuals working in the two resorts.

Pagcor advised the two Thunderbird resorts that they would be shut down by June 3 unless they agree to new provisions in their authority to operate.

Thunderbird sought a temporary restraining order against the closure, which the court granted. The resorts' operations initially ceased a three-day TRO which was extended on June 7 and 8 by another 17-days.

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Phinma buys into BPO sector

By Paolo G. Montecillo

DIVERSIFIED Phinma Corp. has acquired two business process outsourcing (BPO) firms to expand its investment in the growing "high-value" industry.

In a statement, the company said its board had approved the purchase of an 85-percent interest in Fold & Co. Inc. (Fold) for $7.99 million.

Fold is a business research and consulting firm focusing on business and competitive intelligence. Based in the United States, Fold has offices in the US, UK and China.

The company likewise approved the purchase of Business Stack Offsite Inc. (Global Business Research Support (BRS) for about P66 million and subscription in new shares for P12 million. BRS is a Manila-based knowledge process outsourcing (KPO) firm.

"The acquisition of both firms will provide growth for Phinma Corp. in the higher value (KPO) spectrum," the company said in a statement.

"The roll-out and additions of complementary businesses will provide outstanding jobs and build skills in the field of business research and competitive intelligence, offering globally competitive positions and services through a dedicated knowledge process outsourcing center and research engine in the Philippines," it added.

The company said the operations of Fold and BRS would be integrated to improve efficiencies and provide better services for a wider range of clients around the world.

Fold's operations are organized along industry lines, with industry and sector expertise in consumer products, technology, telecommunications, financial services, business services, healthcare, and industrial manufacturing.

Similarly, from investments in the BPO space, the Phinma group, headed by executive Ramon del Rosario Jr., has interests in real estate, education, energy and financial services.

Conglomerate acquires two firms

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MUCSARP Service

NSCB lends hand to Korea, Bhutan

By Roz T. Ostrondro

AS PART of its international cooperation program, the National Statistical Coordination Board (NSCB) said that its experts shared best practices with Korean and Bhutan statisticians.

Mid-Sabaputra, partner/Statistics A. Mirda said in a statement that NSCB had hosted briefings on Improving Statistical Capability for the Assessing Progress in Achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Best Practices on Using Data in the Formulation of Official Poverty Statistics in the Philippines for Korean and Bhutan statisticians, respectively.

Fifteen officials from the Central Bureau of Statistics of South Korea visited the NSCB last June 2 as part of the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (Unescap) Training Course on Improving Statistical Capability for Assessing Progress in Achieving the MDGs, in partnership with the Statistical Research Training Center.

During their study visit to NSCB, the Korean statisticians were briefed on the 2011-2017 Philippine Statistical Development Program by OIC-director Cynthia E. Regala, do of the Programs, Policies, and Standards Office and on the dissemination practices in achieving the MDGs in the Philippines by OIC director Jessamyn G. Encarnacion of the Social Statistics Office (SSO).

Meanwhile, four officials from the National Statistics of Statistics visited the NSCB last June as part of their study tour in the Philippines, coordinated by the Philippine Legacy Corps, a fellowship of development professionals committed to enabling people in help themselves through training, project, community organizing, and organizational development.

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Treasury bills . . .

From page B1

policy rate source.

Market watchers disagree over whether policy rates would increase when the Monetary Board meets on Thursday.

The auction committee "approved a partial award on 91-day T-bills (as opposed to a full rejection of tenders) to support the market trend (of rising rates)," Tan said.

"We did not reject the tenders because the volume is good, which was almost double the offer. But overall, yesterday's auction was subdued considering that bids for the 182-day bill were higher than the 364-day bill."

The government raised a total of P4.735 billion, about half of the planned P9 billion. Investors tendered a total of P14.340 billion.

Yields for the three-month bill reached 1.926%, higher than the P1.5 billion offered.

Bids for the six-month bill reached P3.31 billion, less than the offer of P5.5 billion. Tenders for the year-long bill totaled P8.33 billion, more than double the offer of P4 billion.

Lufthansa bets . . .

From page B1

customers the unpredictable. It's not a standard production process, and if you look for delivery you require solutions," he said. "Filipinos are really passionate about finding the solution, getting the overall flavor and making the customer happy."

Werners Allen said the Philippines was unique in the region for its English-speaking population and extensive network of aviation schools that supply Lufthansa's local workforce.

"That is different than other up-and-coming countries like India and China—you won't find that infrastructure," he said.

New graduates who go in touch for Lufthansa Technik are put through the in-house training school, where they undergo a further year and a half of hands-on training before they are entrusted with multimillion-dollar planes. AFP

Share prices close lower

From page B1

billion shares worth P4.09 billion changing hands from Friday's 1.7 billion shares worth P3.81 billion.

Decliners overwhelmed advancers, 139 to 23, while 22 stocks did not change.

It rallied 8 in US stocks last Friday took its toll on the Dow Jones Industrial Average, which fell 0.4% last month low.

"Almost all major index stocks closed lower on concerns over global economic recovery and another rate hike adjustment in the Philippines," a brokerage firm said. Paolo G. Montecillo

Market Rider

From page B2

against your trade.

There is no shame in being wrong with your forecast. The market is changing, like the weather.

At what a senior trader of a leading international investment house had warned the state of the international equities markets, "we came off a great Christmas and some rare (economic) data. Then, the stocks, commodities and currencies came. Who would have guessed that economic recovery would hinge on re-shifting of tectonic plates (in reference to the Fukushima earthquake incident in Japan) and global climate change."

So, for our trading strategy, be ready to act accordingly this week. It could be to fold an old losing risk position or recommending additional money to a winning investment play.

(You may mail the Market Rider at marketrider@inquirer.com.ph or direct@crown-liquidhub.com)

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RATES

DEADLINES

TUESDAY, JUNE 14, 2011

B4

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Field Office IV
Cantonigan City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF IT EQUIPMENTS FOR THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM IN DIPOLOG CITY

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV through the General Appropriations Act for calendar Year 2011 intends to apply the sum of ONE MILLION FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND PESOS (PHP 1,500,000.00) being the Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) to payments under the contract for the Procurement of IT Equipments for the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program.

(1)	15 units Desktop Computer (PHP 1,050,000.00)
(2)	5 units Laptops (PHP 300,000.00)
(3)	10 units Desktop Computers (PHP 1,875,000.00)
(4)	5 units Laptop Computers (PHP 1,125,000.00)
(5)	1 unit Server Computer (PHP 225,000.00)
(6)	1 unit Network Router (PHP 225,000.00)

Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV now invites bids for the Procurement of the IT Equipments for the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. Delivery of the Goods is required after twenty (20) days upon receipt of approved notice to proceed from the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV and delivery shall be made at DSWD Field Office, Cantonigan City. Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to the RA 5183 as implemented in Presidential Decree No. 1789.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from 8 AM to 5 PM from June 14 to July 1, 2011.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on June 14 to July 1, 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of PHP 1,000.00.

It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) and the website of the Philippine Government, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV will host a Pre-Bid Conference on June 21, 2011 at the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV, Cantonigan City, at 10:00 AM, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 PM on July 1, 2011. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18 (refer to table below).

Form of Bid Security	Amount of Bid Security (Stated in Percentage of the ABC)
(a) Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank	Two percent (2%)
(b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authorized by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank	Two percent (2%)
(c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security	Five percent (5%)
(d) Any combination of the foregoing	Proportionate to share of the security issued by each entity (not to exceed the above percentages)

Bid opening shall be on July 1, 2011 at the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV, Cantonigan City at 10:00 AM. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

ROMEO S. ROJAS
Chief Administrative Officer
DSWD Regional Office IV
Cantonigan City

Republic of the Philippines
DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL WELFARE AND DEVELOPMENT
Field Office IV
Cantonigan City

INVITATION TO BID FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF IT EQUIPMENTS FOR THE PANTAWID PAMILYANG PILIPINO PROGRAM IN ZAMBOANGA CITY

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV now invites bids for the Procurement of the IT Equipments for the Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program. Delivery of the Goods is required after twenty (20) days upon receipt of approved notice to proceed from the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV and delivery shall be made at DSWD Field Office, Cantonigan City. Bidding shall be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".

Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to the RA 5183 as implemented in Presidential Decree No. 1789.

Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from 8 AM to 5 PM from June 14 to July 1, 2011.

A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on June 14 to July 1, 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of PHP 1,000.00.

It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) and the website of the Philippine Government, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV will host a Pre-Bid Conference on June 21, 2011 at the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV, Cantonigan City, at 10:00 AM, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.

Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 PM on July 1, 2011. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18 (refer to table below).

Form of Bid Security	Amount of Bid Security (Stated in Percentage of the ABC)
(a) Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank	Two percent (2%)
(b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authorized by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank	Two percent (2%)
(c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security	Five percent (5%)
(d) Any combination of the foregoing	Proportionate to share of the security issued by each entity (not to exceed the above percentages)

Bid opening shall be on July 1, 2011 at the Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV, Cantonigan City at 10:00 AM. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.

The Department of Social Welfare and Development - Field Office IV reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

ROMEO S. ROJAS
Chief Administrative Officer
DSWD Regional Office IV
Cantonigan City

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SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM

Invitation to Apply for Eligibility and to Bid
ITB No. 2011-211 – Goods

SUPPLY, DELIVERY & INSTALLATION OF ONE (1) UNIT MICROFILM SCANNER/CONVERTER

Approved Budget for the Contract (ABC) in Pesos and Years	Delivery/Completion Period	Eligibility Documents	Bid Security (Bid Bond)	Price of Bid Documents (non-refundable)
One (1) unit Microfilm Scanner/Converter	90 calendar days from receipt of Notice to Proceed	August 8, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.	August 9, 2011 at 10:00 A.M.	P10,000.00

1. Bids received in excess of the ABC shall be automatically rejected at bid opening.
2. The SOCIAL SECURITY SYSTEM now invites bids for the above item. Delivery of the Goods is required as indicated above. Bidders should have completed, within the last five (5) years from the date of submission of bids, a contract similar to the Project. The similar contract must be supported by a Contract Agreement and Certificate of Completion.
3. Bidding will be conducted through open competitive bidding procedures using a non-discretionary "pass/fail" criterion as specified in the Implementing Rules and Regulations (IRR) of Republic Act 9184, otherwise known as the "Government Procurement Reform Act".
4. Bidding is restricted to Filipino citizens/sole proprietorships, partnerships, or organizations with at least sixty percent (60%) interest or outstanding capital stock belonging to citizens of the Philippines, and to citizens or organizations of a country the laws or regulations of which grant similar rights or privileges to Filipino citizens, pursuant to the RA 5183 as implemented in Presidential Decree No. 1789.
5. Interested bidders may obtain further information from the Social Security System and inspect the Bidding Documents at the address given below during office hours from 8:00 A.M. to 5:00 P.M.
6. A complete set of Bidding Documents may be purchased by interested Bidders on June 14 to July 1, 2011 from the address below and upon payment of a non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents in the amount of PHP 10,000.00.
7. It may also be downloaded free of charge from the website of the Philippine Government Electronic Procurement System (PHILGEPS) and the website of the Philippine Government, provided that Bidders shall pay the non-refundable fee for the Bidding Documents not later than the submission of their bids.
8. The Social Security System will host a Pre-Bid Conference on July 4, 2011 at 10:00 A.M. at the Social Security System, Diliman, Quezon City, which shall be open only to all interested parties who have purchased the Bidding Documents.
9. Bids must be delivered to the address below on or before 2:00 P.M. on July 9, 2011. All Bids must be accompanied by a bid security in any of the acceptable forms and in the amount stated in ITB Clause 18 (refer to table below).

Form of Bid Security	Amount of Bid Security (Stated in Percentage of the ABC)
(a) Cash, Cashier's/Manager's Check issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank	Two percent (2%)
(b) Bank draft/guarantee or irrevocable letter of credit issued by a Universal or Commercial Bank: Provided, however, that it shall be confirmed or authorized by a Universal or Commercial Bank, if issued by a foreign bank	Two percent (2%)
(c) Surety bond callable upon demand issued by a surety or insurance company duly certified by the Insurance Commission as authorized to issue such security	Five percent (5%)
(d) Any combination of the foregoing	Proportionate to share of the security issued by each entity (not to exceed the above percentages)

10. Bid opening shall be on July 9, 2011 at the Social Security System, Diliman, Quezon City at 10:00 A.M. Bids will be opened in the presence of the Bidders' representatives who choose to attend at the address below. Late bids shall not be accepted.
11. The Social Security System reserves the right to accept or reject any bid, to annul the bidding process, and to reject all bids at any time prior to contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected bidder or bidders.

For further information, please refer to:

BAC Secretariat
Social Security System
East Avenue, Diliman
Quezon City
Telefax: 920-6446
Trunkline: 920-6401 to 41

ATTY. ROLANDO ANGELES
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

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ADORACION SUAREZ ABELLAR

of Tarlac City and Angeles City

at the age of 89 years peacefully joined our Creator and her beloved husband, ALBERTO TIONGSON ABELLAR (†) on June 12, 2011.

Devoted mother to: Teresita & Jose Cabreros, Teodolinda & Edna Abellar, Trentita & Nestor Rholight, Thelma Trinidad Abellar, Mario & Pauline Abellar and Milagros & Dr. Citizen Roy Regaret, Jr.

Loving sister to: Justa (†), Abdenita (†), Araceli, Avelino (†), Amanda and Zenaida Basa

Grandchildren, other relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Funeraria Enriquez, Tarlac City.

Interment will be on June 15, 2011 at the Eternal Memorial Gardens after the 8:30 a.m. Holy Mass at the San Sebastian Parish Church, San Sebastian Village, Tarlac City.

Jesus answered him, "I tell you the truth, today you will be with Me in paradise." – Luke 23:43

Josefina M. Dee Hansen

June 19, 1956 – June 7, 2011

Beloved wife of Ernesto; mother of Jadyn & Jessica; daughter of Camilo M. Martinez (†) & Alfosa L. Martinez; sister of Robert, Benita & George.

Her family requests the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her body lies in state at St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Memorial Chapel, Hamilton Place, Magallanes, Makati City.

Interment will be on Thursday, June 16, 2011 at Manila Memorial Park, Sucat, Parañaque after the 9:00 a.m. Mass.

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ALEXANDRA "RIA" P. ROQUE

(nee Feria) (†6.14.03)

The Holy sacrifice of the Mass will be offered today at 6:00 PM Shrine of Mary Queen of Peace of the Lady of Fatima Chapel for the intention of the following families:

Sacred Heart Parish, Kamuning	7:15 AM
St. John Bosco's Parish, Barrio Highway, Antipolo City	6:00 AM
Nuestra Señora De Guia Parish, Guadalupe Viejo, Makati City	6:00 AM
Mother Basilica of the Black Nazarene, Quiapo, Manila	6:00 AM
Mary the Queen Parish, Greenhills	6:00 AM
De La Salle Parish, Bacolod, Negros Occ.	6:00 AM
Santo Niño de Paco Parish, Paco, Manila	6:00 AM
St. John Bosco Parish, Ayala-alabang, Muntinlupa City	6:00 AM
Our Lady of Lourdes Church, Manila, Southern, Quezon City	6:00 AM
Immaculate Heart of the Sacred Heart, San Antonio Village, Makati City	6:00 AM
Sanctuario De San Jose Parish, Mandaluyong City	6:15 AM
Parish of St. Lukas Bel Grant, Iloilo, Iloilo	6:30 AM
Sanctuario De San Jose Greenhills, Mandaluyong City	6:15 AM
Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Valenzuela City	6:30 AM
Most Holy Redeemer and Norbertine Shrine of San Antonio Basi, Binondo, Manila	6:45 AM
San Agustin Church, Intramuros, Manila	6:30 AM
St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Bel-air II, Makati City	6:30 AM
Manila Metropolitan Cathedral-Basilica, Intramuros, Manila	7:00 AM
Christ the King Parish, Scout Madrinan, Quezon City	7:00 AM
Sto. Domingo Church, Quezon Blvd., Quezon City	7:00 AM
Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish, Sucat, Paranaque City	7:00 AM
Nuestra Señora de Salud Parish and Shrine, Sto. Cristo, Iloilo, Iloilo	12:10 PM
St. Alphonsus Mary de Liguori Parish, Magallanes, Makati City	12:10 PM
Virgen Dela Paz, Nuestra Señora Caridad Parish, Makati City	12:10 PM
Holy Family Chapel, Greenhills, Mandaluyong City	12:10 PM
Sacred Heart Church, Roxas cor Buri, Makati City	12:30 PM
Campus of Sacred Heart, Sto. Niño, Manila	4:00 PM
Greenhills Chapel, Santa Cruz, Manila City	4:00 PM
Immaculate Conception Parish, Antipolo Cathedral, Antipolo City	4:00 PM
St. Francis Parish, Mabini Blvd., Mandaluyong City	4:00 PM
Sanctuario de San Francisco Xavier Park, Bicutan	4:00 PM
St. Alberto the Great Parish, Pinagsabangan II, Ayala-Alabang	4:00 PM
Mt. Carmel Shrine, Quezon City	4:00 PM
St. Jerome Emiliani & St. Vincent Parish, Ayala-alabang	4:00 PM
Our Lady of the Most Holy Rosary Parish, San Pedro Cutud, Pampanga	4:00 PM

The family requests relatives, friends and pious readers to please remember the holiest prayers.

JOSE ADIARTE RUBIO

joined our Lord and his wife Arnell on June 11, 2011 at the age of 66.

His children, grandchildren, relatives and friends request your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

His remains lie in state at St. Peter Chapels, Commonwealth Avenue, Quezon City to be brought to Laoag City, Ilocos Norte on June 15, 2011.

Interment will be on Monday, June 20, 2011 after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at St. William's Cathedral, Laoag City.

Atty. Cesar G. Otero

February 26, 1933 – June 12, 2011

Trial Lawyer – U.E. College of Law Batch '63
Rotarian – District 3780

"Come to Me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest." – **Matthew 11:28**

His remains lie in state at St. Paul of the Cross, Sandal Wood, Concepcion Dos, Marikina City.

Interment will be on Friday, June 17, 2011 at the Holy Garden, Taytay, Rizal.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish but have everlasting life." – *John 3:16*

People, Events & Products

BITS Clips

Business intelligence for SMEs

BUSINESS INTELLIGENCE or BI refers to an IT-based process of collecting, storing and forecasting company performance based on past, raw data. This must come with the collection of all raw data and analyzing them to come up with effective and strategic planning and decision making.

Small-to-medium scale enterprises (SMEs) do not have the size to actually use Oracle or a full-scale BI solution. This puts them somewhat in a disadvantage especially against larger companies that have the scale and financial capacity. Most BI solutions require professionals within an organization to be managed and being as their size, SMEs do not have enough manpower to ignite to recover and take the needs of a BI infrastructure. Such a gap could undermine the competitiveness of SMEs against its peer organizations.

BI should exist to all types of businesses, regardless of type and scale. There are still BI solutions that also exist to small operations to allow them to overcome competitive hurdles and achieve long term sustainability and perhaps even expand.

Some of these BI solutions are already in the cloud and as the providers become more aware of the unique needs of SMEs, new solutions are created to address these needs and be introduced along the way.

Cloud computing is joining the way for SMEs to go toe-to-toe with each other and even against bigger companies. In a cloud computing environment, SMEs will only need to pay for services they use. There is almost little need to actually implement new physical IT infrastructure; everything is online, save for the desktop device or location that is used to access the service. SAP, for instance, has Business All for One (Beta) and Business Intelligence On Demand as a cloud computing environment. SMEs can use these services, thereby cutting down on costs by using BI.

It is not the size of the business that matters in implementing BI but rather how to be smart in utilizing data. Solutions providers, such as SAP are already helping out the types of Business Intelligence services that SMEs could need. All they need to do is ask and they'll be on their way to become better run companies.

Karaoke World Champion search

KIA'S FREE SPIRITS is now looking for the first male and female Filipino karaoke champions who will compete in the 2011 Karaoke World Championships in Okinawa, Japan on Sept. 9 to 13. The KIA's Philippine Daily Tribute, from May 30 to July 9 (Mondays to Saturdays from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the KIA Daily Tribute center at 1081 Edsa, Balintawak, QC. The top 3 male and top 3 female winners, Ivette Bunyi, Thalia will advance to compete in the Weekly Trials. The top 3 male and top 3 female qualifiers in the Weekly Trials will be the finalists in the National Championship to be held on July 23 at the CBSI Mall in Mass Rizal, Rizal. The winning male and female karaoke singers in the July 23 National Championship will be crowned as the 2011 KIAFC Philippine champions. Together, they will represent the Philippines in the Karaoke World Championships in Japan. For more info, contact KIAFC Philippines at 361-8400 local 8121 or 8130, e-mail them at kiafcphilippines.com or visit www.kiafcphilippines.com.

Mastering LC with UCP 600 and ISBP

THE CENTER for Global Best Practices (www.cgbp.org) in collaboration with the International Chamber of Commerce will host a two-day learning seminar entitled "Practical Rules on Letters of Credit Formulation" on Thursday and Friday, July 7 and 8, from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the Silver Triangle Lo Hotel Ekamdaeng in Bangkok City. The program aims to facilitate bankers, importers, importers, exporters, carriers, insurers and lawyers in the practice of commercial law and dispute resolution on the major changes in LC rules that took effect globally on July 1, 2007. These changes, which govern LC transactions in all countries around the world, are contained in the recent ICP 600 (Uniform Customs and Practice for Documentary Credits) and ISBP 2007 (International Standard Banking Practice for Examining LC Documents). The two-time award-winning firm normally held in other countries gives an opportunity to those who want to attend this seminar in the Philippines to do so at only one-third of the cost one were to attend this program overseas. The program will feature Singapore-based expert, Victor Tan, an authority in the field of banking and banking, and with 10 years of banking experience covering areas of international trade finance, remittances, guarantees, import and export. Some standard updates contained in your course agreement team in these changes in LC documentation. Attend this seminar and avail of early bird discounts for early registrations and group discounts for attendees of 3 or more. This is a limited-seats only event and pre-registration is required. For details and a complete list of services, you may log on to www.cgbp.org. For more info, call (02) 892-7120 or 09-500-9800 or Celia Lima at (02) 911-8046 ext 27.

Top USA alumni clubs in PH hold business forum

THE AUSMAN clubs in the Philippines of the top USA universities, namely, Columbia, Harvard Business School, Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Northwestern Kellogg, Stanford and Wharton – Penn, will jointly hold a business forum with Silicon Valley's venture capitalist, Dado Banatao, as guest speaker. Attendees is considered as Philippines' Bill Gates, learning-oriented entrepreneurs like the Ayalas, Sorianos and Zobels. The event is expected to attract such as PC motherboard and microchips whose sales are dominated by Taiwanese technology companies such as Intel, Broadcom, Emerson Corporation and Cisco Asia. Proactive leading Talkmovil, a common capital firm or telcos' banks, Banco de Oro Universal Bank, Bank of the Philippine Islands also founded three technology start-ups and had plans of National Semiconductor, Basic Technologies, Infonet and Communications International. The event is expected start at 8 p.m. on June 16 at the Manila Polo Club. To know more about the event, please call Jeanne Rose Ignacio at (02) 895-3020, 0917-895-2006 or e-mail jignacio@philtelco.com.ph.

BUSINESS

DOE to sign 8 renewable energy contracts

By Amy S. Roma

Investments in two solar, six wind projects to reach $82M

THE DEPARTMENT of Energy is set to sign eight renewable energy contracts for wind and solar energy, with initial investments seen reaching $82 million (about P3.5 billion) within sixty-one months.

These deals form part of the estimated 79 contracts that the DOE targets to sign within the month in pursuit of energy security through the use of renewable energy (RE) resources.

According to a government source, investments in the two solar RE contracts are seen to reach $20.511 million (about P882 million), while the six pending wind contracts would involve investments of $61.488 million (about P2.6 billion).

DOE documents showed the solar contracts that were up for signing were those for the Kinoo solar power project for Cabanatuva, Bhutan Trinidad, which will be undertaken by Cagayan Power and Light Co., Inc., and Energy Logics Philippines Inc.'s Dumajon Ranges solar power project in Dumajon, Ranges, Boots Norte.

The contracts for the one wind projects of Energy Logics are also up for signing. These are the North Dumajon and Mt. Bathanda wind power projects in Dumajon, Boots Norte and Indira Zambales, respectively.

The Department has also seen expert contracts for its three proposed wind power projects in Ranges 2, Boots Norte Island, Carnation Norte, and Mercedes and Dust in Carnation, Norte. The contract for the Ragudo wind power project of Philcarbon Inc. is expected to be approved soon.

In the meantime, the government source also said the DOE has approved MW Philippines Solar Energy Group Inc.'s planned solar facility in Marinduque. The project is estimated to initially cost $3.76 million (or P161 million) during the predevelopment stage.

In a related development, the DOE is launching the National Renewable Energy Plan today (December) as the government targets to increase the RE-based power capacity of the country by as much as 15,226.2 megawatts in 2030. Currently, the country's RE-based power capacity stood at 5,869MW.

According to the DOE, the NREP was crucial as it would outline national RE targets and establish a framework for existing and planned policies for the promotion of RE and a roadmap that will guide implementation of them.

"For a country reliant on imported energy sources, these developments signal a hardy demands shift toward greater energy independence. With the attainment of RE sources finally gaining some interest, the department needs only to entice more investors in the country to harness the vast resource that it already has," the DOE said in a statement.

President Benigno S. Aquino III said about 400 RE advocates are expected to attend today's NREP launching.

Globe forms partnership with foreign telco

By Paolo G. Montecillo

GLOBE TELECOM Inc. has inked a deal with a major foreign phone firm to help lower long-distance call rates between the Philippines and Europe.

The Ayala-led company announced on Monday its partnership with Europe's Lebara Mobile, one of the fastest-rises in the world with operations in eight different countries.

"The partnership will give Lebara Mobile subscribers in the United Kingdom, Spain, Germany, France, Switzerland, Denmark, Netherlands and Slovenia lower rates to [call] talk to their relatives and friends using Globe and TM in the Philippines," Globe said in a statement.

In recent months, local telecommunications providers have started to feel the push on revenue of competition from online applications like Skype, which allow users to make long-distance voice calls at low rates.

Local telcos' revenues from international calls have also slumped due to the recent strengthening of the local currency, which means less peso for every dollar earned.

London-based Lebara, which operates as a "budget" brand, is in partnering with more than 70 telecommunications operators worldwide.

It offers prepaid mobile SIM cards that are compatible with all standard mobile handsets and customized to the needs of international communities, particularly migrant workers.

These SIM cards enable customers to make national and international calls, send texts and browse the Internet directly from their cellphones at a fraction of the price of traditional operators.

"Lebara's features-packed complement our thrust at Globe to provide quality service with the lowest mobile-to-mobile [charges]," Globe International business group head Ilyas Mustapha declared.

"Our partnership with Lebara will allow millions of Filipinos residing in Europe the chance to call their loved ones more often at more affordable rates, anytime and anywhere," she added.

Globe has more than 400 international roaming partners, giving it the widest global coverage among Philippine telecommunications companies.

Vehicle importers expand market share

By Abigail L. Ho

MEMBERS OF the Association of Vehicle Importers and Distributors (Aviad) registered a slight increase in overall market share to 15 percent in May from 14 percent in the first quarter.

According to the group's latest sales report, the number of vehicles sold by its members in May reached 1,951 units, a 4-percent improvement from the 1,879 units sold in the same month last year.

This gave Aviad members a 15-percent share of the vehicle market.

In the same month, members of the Chamber of Automotive Manufacturers of the Philippines Inc. registered an 11-percent sales decline to 10,913 units, from the previous month's 12,259 units.

Campi members include the country's biggest vehicle assemblers, including Toyota Motor Philippines Corp., Mitsubishi Motors Philippines Corp., Honda Cars Philippines Inc. and Ford Group Philippines. They all experienced production slowdowns following the devastating earthquake and tsunami that hit northern Japan last March 11.

Aviad said its members were mostly able to "deliver promises without fail," caused by the "Japan disasters" due to their "robust global supply chain."

In January to May, Aviad members posted 9,658 units in sales, a 6-percent more than the 9,128 units sold in the same period last year.

Apart from the minimal effects of the Japan crisis on Aviad members' supply chains, the group attributed the rise in sales to strong buyer interest in the new nameplates launched in the first quarter, especially the fuel-efficient models, and aggressive and creative advertising efforts.

Among the Aviad members, Mitsubishi Motors Philippines sold the most vehicles at 9,862 units in the first five months and 1,643 units in May alone.

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MUNTINLUPA

ANTIPOLO, RIZAL

BATANGAS

BAGUIO CITY

TAGAYTAY

CAINTA, RIZAL

OCCIDENTAL MINDORO

BULACAN

BARAS, RIZAL

SAN MATEO, RIZAL

ORIENTAL MINDORO

NAGA CITY

CAVITE

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San Carlos seen resuming operations

By Rica T. Chikiamco

THE COUNTRY may resume ethanol production next year as declining local demand for sugar has compelled the build-up of excess sugar stocks, according to the Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA).

Rosemarie Gamboa, SRA manager for policy and planning, said a plant intervention via blender fleet is also possible that San Carlos Bioenergy Inc. in Negros Occidental, the country's first and largest ethanol plant, would resume operations in September 2011 as price of local sugar resumes, the area mentioned. Its Switchboard, continued to the cities.

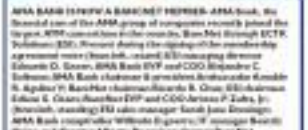
San Carlos suspended its operations due to high sugarcane prices in crop year 2010-2011. As a result, the Philippines' ethanol production in 2010 dropped to a mere 9.05 million liters from 23.20 million liters in 2009.

"Declining sugar prices are very encouraging for ethanol producers. The prices of sugarcane, which is dictated by the market price of sugar, has significantly dropped from as high as 50,000 to about 31,200 per ton," Gamboa said in a telephone interview.

Should San Carlos resume operations, Gamboa said the diversion of more sugarcane stocks to ethanol production would ease the oversupply in sugar.

"As of today, two sugar mills are rumored by ED parties from last year, while stocks of refined sugar build up by 30 percent," she said.

As of May 29, sugar output from mills has hit 2.279 million metric tons, exceeding the total output of 1.96 million MT for 2010.



AMA BANK EXECUTIVES & BANCNET HEADS. AMA Bank, the financial arm of the AMA group of companies recently joined the largest ATM consortium in the country, BancNet through ECTR Solutions (ESI). Present during the signing of the membership agreement were (from left...seated) ESI managing director Eduardo O. Ecuzon, AMA Bank EVP and COO Alejandro C. Ledesma, AMA Bank chairman Emeritus Bernardo M. Villegas, AMA Bank chairman & president Bernardo M. Villegas, AMA Bank chairman & president Bernardo M. Villegas, AMA Bank chairman & president

The best calorie-burning cardio exercises for rainy days

By Mitch Felipe Mendoza
Contributor

EACH SEASON has come to an end. For some, it can be harder to get moving, to run on a treadmill, to use the elliptical machine, or to join fitness classes in the gym during rainy season.

It might also be harder for you to pursue your outdoor exercises such as running, walking or cycling.

In fact, there are still many physical activities you can do at home while burning the same or even more calories than your usual cardio workouts.

Here are the top four challenging cardio workouts you can do in your house on rainy days to control your weight, and still maintain or improve your fitness level.

But you still need to consider your weight, exercise intensity, and actual hours (it's an accurately determine the total calorie burn (the heavier you are, the higher your heart rate is, the more calories you burn).

Hooping

Calories burned: 210 calories in 30 minutes, according to the study below

Equipment needed: Hula hoop

According to a recent news release from the American College of Sports Medicine (ACSM), "hooping" is equivalent to the same amount of calories burned as walking 4 to 4.5 miles per hour (6.4-7.2 km per hour), enough energy one to control one's body weight. This exercise has also been considered a popular group exercise class in the US.

If you are getting bored using the treadmill or can't take a walk, hooping might work for you. Aside from burning more calories, you also get to work on your whole body, especially your torso and core muscles, to control the movement.

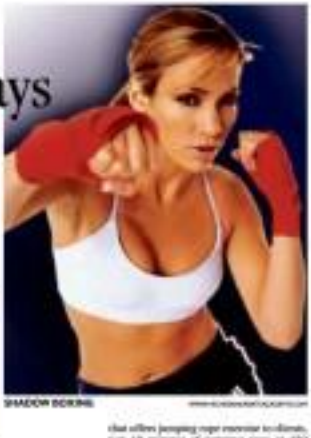
Shadow boxing

Calories burned: 200-300 calories (30 minutes)

Equipment needed: Mirror

If you're used to joining cardio kickboxing classes or have experienced boxing as a sport or form of exercise, you can still do the same moves at home before the mirror so you can really watch your form.

You can burn enough calories in a 30-minute shadowboxing workout by alternating and combining different types of punches and kicks and imagining that there's an actual opponent in front of you.


SHADOW BOXING

Can't go outdoors? Grab a hula hoop, shadowbox, jump rope or follow a high-intensity training video

JUMPING rope

HOOPING at home

Keep your feet moving and bouncing to maintain a steady heart rate. You can start with basic boxing warm-ups like jumping jacks, jogs and shuffles. Then, to start up a high-calorie shadow kickboxing routine, start with basic kicks: cut stack leg, like boxing kicks, side kicks, back kicks and round house kicks, followed by 15-20 sets of jabs, crosses, hooks and uppercuts on each arm. Then combine moves, vary the speed, and increase the intensity until you reach your target duration or calorie burn.

Jump rope

Calories burned: 210-408 calories (30 minutes)

Equipment needed: Jumping rope

The New York Times just reported using jumping rope as a high-calorie burning exercise. According to a New York Times interview with Edward Jackowski, owner of a fitness center in New York City that offers jumping rope exercise to clients, just 10 minutes of jumping rope at 150 turns per minute is equivalent to 30 minutes of running on to seven miles per hour (9.6-11.2 km per hour).

Just follow the proper jumping technique, where you stay high on your toes and do not jump more than an inch off the floor.

Although this high-intensity exercise can make you burn more calories, you might have a hard time sustaining a longer workout because of the high heart rate caused by jumping, especially if you are just a beginner.

It's a still better to combine this exercise with lighter sets of cardio moves like marching in place or light jogs in-place during recovery breaks to regulate your heart rate.

You can alternate one minute of jumping rope with one to two minutes of light cardio moves and a minute of body weight resistance exercise like push ups or crunches.

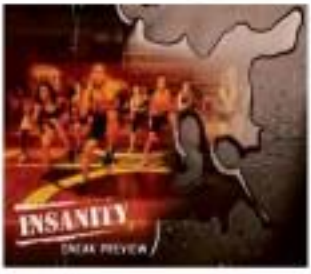
As you progress and become stronger, you can increase the duration of the jumping rope set.

High-intensity interval training

Calories burned: 350-900 calories (30 minutes)

Equipment needed: High-intensity interval training exercise video like "Insanity"

If you are free of injuries and if your cardiovascular fitness level is high enough and you're used to doing speed interval ex-



TURN TO C

'Kasambuhay, Habambuhay' is Nestlé Philippines' centennial theme

CELEBRATING ITS 100th year in the country, Nestlé Philippines, led by chair and CEO John Martin Miller, recently hosted the gala premiere of a 100-minute anthology of creative short films reflecting the centennial theme "Kasambuhay, Habambuhay... Generations in Life, for Life."

Drawing the gala was a who's who of more than a thousand guests, including business partners, government leaders, media, and advertising industry movers and shakers, entertainment stars.

"The films are a salute to all Filipinos, particularly Filipino families, who have made Nestlé their 'Kasambuhay (habambuhay' through countless generations," said Miller. "The anthology reflects on the values that have made Nestlé's brands an integral part of everyday Filipino life for the last 100 years. At the same time we also look to the future and our mission to continue providing Filipinos with tasty and high-quality Philippine-made products that promote nutrition, health and wellness."

In creative and engaging ways, the films address diverse stories about the role that Nestlé and its brands have played, and continue to play, in the lives of Filipino families. These highly entertaining films showcase a range of genres, including drama, romantic comedy, musical, fantasy, satire, family-centered, suspense, adventure, mockumentary, even a Shakespearean parody.

The films have been accepted for showing at the world-famous Cannes "Lions" Festival in June. The anthology will be shown publicly in iconic movie theaters, and aired at various occasions as part of the company's centennial celebrations.

The 10 short films were made by nine acclaimed directors who have helmed TV commercials for the company. These are A.V. Boreta, Carlo Directo, Henry Feijoo,

SEN. KOKOI BOO Angara and Washington Sycip

ALAKSA president and CEO Wilfred Uytengsu

ERIK T board chair lawyer Felipa Gozon

Inquirer board chair Marixi Prieto

NESTLE Phils.: Eugene Durid and wife

Raul Jacobo, Ala Madrinan, Stephen Ngo, Jun Reyes, Chris Martinez and Josepe Aguenilla.

"Through this film series, we would like to thank and honor the generations of Filipino consumers and families who have put their trust in Nestlé and its brands, and have made them a part of their daily lives," said Nestlé Philippines director of communications Sandra Pinto.

"We are very excited about the films, which we worked on with Publicis Manila, headed by Mateo Villanueva and Jayel Lacanienta," said Nestlé Philippines executive vice president Leslie Go Alcantara. "We hope the films will be a meaningful way to engage consumers, because the centennial celebration is really all about them."

Guests at the gala celebration each went home with the company's limited-edition commemorative book "Celebrating 100 Years of Cooking with Nestlé" and a CD of the 2011 Edition of its "Creating Shared Value" Report.

AI-AI de las Alas, Kris Aquino and Charo Santos-Concio

MON and Tonnie Gonzales with Sandra Pinto (center)

SAM Milby and Kim Chiu

ISABELLE Daza

HOLLO Pascual

DOMINIC Rocco and Rhian Ramos

SOLENN Heussaff

ANGELICA Panganiban, Derek Ramsay and Sugarr Domingo

PAOLO Abrera, Ogie Alcasid and Sam Pinto Abrera

MARVIN Agustin

A healthy, active lifestyle is the best Father's Day gift

IS DAD a golfer? A package of tees and a gift certificate to the driving range would be a great gift. Or maybe he's into the great outdoors... hiking, biking, fishing, kayaking—in which case, his favorite sports equipment or gear would be a most cherished father's day gift.

Whatever that gift may be, Toby's Sports is sure to have it. From running shoes to tennis racquets and camping and fishing equipment, Toby's Sports has the widest range of brands and products for fitness, apparel, footwear, team and action sports, golf and racquet sports, games, water sports and the outdoors.

Since 1978, Toby's Sports, a member of the Quorum Group of Companies, has been the trusted name in the sports industry and a champion of sports as the route to physical, mental and emotional wellness.

"Sports fosters and deepens interpersonal relationships," says Toby Claudio, Toby's Sports vice president for operations. "If it can do that among teenagers, think of sports' potential to bring fathers and sons or daughters closer."

Toby's Sports, itself a legacy handed down from father to son, carries more than 3,000 brands and stocks more than 60,000 unique items in over 30 branches nationwide.

On Father's Day, invest in your father's time, health, and happiness. Think beyond that one day in June to find a gift that keeps on giving year round.

Visit the Toby's store nearest you. Call 662-4414/15, visit www.tobys.com or http://www.facebook.com/Tobysstore.

WHATEVER that gift may be for Dad, Toby's Sports is sure to have it.

Unlike bridgework and dentures, dental implants can last a lifetime

GONE ARE the days when parents and children had to deal with ill-fitting dentures or bridgework and soaking artificial false teeth in a glass of water. This Father's Day, why not consider a unique and lasting gift for the man of the house with a set of dental implants?

According to Dr. Hector B. Manuntal of Clarity Aesthetic Medical and Dental Center, "While dentures may have been the popular solution to tooth loss in the past, the newest and more lasting solution to tooth loss is dental implants."

A dental implant involves damaged or missing teeth with artificial teeth that look and function much like real ones.

Dental implants are more durable, look more natural, are easy to clean, and can prevent further bone loss and gum tissue shrinkage.

With conventional bridgework, removal

ing tooth next to the missing gap must be ground down to act as anchor supports for the dental bridge. Dental implants do not compromise surrounding natural teeth.

According to the American Academy of Periodontology, dental implants allow patients to speak and eat with comfort and confidence. Patients feel more secure with dental implants and are spared the annoying and embarrassing clicks and wobbles of dentures.

Bridgework and dentures may need to be replaced every 10-15 years, but dental implants normally last a lifetime with proper care.

Consult with a dental implantologist or set an appointment at Clarity Aesthetic Medical and Dental Clinic in the 5th level of Shangri-La Mall. Call 9106958 to 58 or 0918-CLARITY (2527489). Visit www.facebook.com/claritydc.

The best calorie-burning cardio . . .

From page B1

training, plyometric exercises or high-intensity racquet sports like squash, you can try a different form of high-intensity interval indoor workout like the "Insanity" exercise video, created by Shaun T, also known for his Hip-Hop Abs.

I have already watched and tried some of the "Insanity" moves that can really increase your heart rate, such that you can't maintain some moves for long. In the short test period can still make you learn more advance because your head says is still up and going.

Cardio routines are more on jumps, hops, skips, squats, lunges and kicks, and mostly with upper body moves.

If you are planning to try the workout, make sure you are doing the proper form. Anyway, you can always modify the intensity by shortening the duration of the high-intensity period by choosing the other moves or by increasing the rest periods.

E-mail the author at [illegible]@gmail.com

Is this person my soulmate?

I RECENTLY received this e-mail from a man we shall call Antonio:

"I am a follower of your column, and I have decided to bring up the matter with you.

"Life has never been the same for me since I made some kind of mystical connection with a woman 30 years younger than I. I call it mystical, since I have had no true intimate telepathic connection with her, no one sensation feeling, but being very rich, and the other with her handing into a crisis.

"I actually tried to avoid this connection/meeting, but for the first time, but somehow, deep in my soul, I knew I was falling, which I did. Each meeting was filled with wonderful times together and a lot of meaningful conversations.

"But the real pivotal meeting I had with her was on Valentine's Day, when she showed other type of crisis she was very rich. I tried to distance myself from her [a so-to-say], since I feel some kind of psychological bound her.

"The scary thing about this is this was not the first time I had a telepathic connection with her. We first met in January 2011, but along a road in Laguna, there was this spot where I [called] up many positive vibes so early as 2008. I learned later that the area where I picked up these wonderful vibes was near her hometown, where she has lived since childhood, and where she usually goes home during her breaks from work in Metro Manila.

"Although there is a romantic pull between the two of us, the reality is I am committed, and have resigned myself to the fact that, one day, I have to part with the woman.

Twin soul?

"Please tell me, what is this woman to me? A soulmate or a twin soul? I sometimes wished that she was only a confidante from the past, with whom I will have a platonic or telepathic communication in the future after we part ways.

"But seriously, I find it very hard to ignore whatever romantic or friendly ties I have with her. The intensity of my connection with her cannot be denied, and I just cannot leave her like other women I had loved before."

Dear Antonio,

You are certainly not alone. I receive similar queries, but mostly from women.

Let me make one thing very clear: strong attraction alone for another person does not equate to or be a soul-mate. There are definite indicators or characteristics of soulmate encounters which I discuss fully in my book, "Soulmates, Karma & Relationships."

At best I would say that this woman is a former partner of yours. A karmic partner is one with whom you have had a strong karmic relationship or link in a past life or several lifetimes. You've come to meet again in the present life to work out your karmic obligations in each other.

Now, you can learn more about Apple products and applications

POINTS Mel Credit, a chain of retail shops, service provider partners for Apple products, and outlet for consumer awareness, is the first Apple store in the country to receive an Apple Authorized Training Center (AATC) certification, one of the highest accreditations given by Apple to its resellers.

Power Mac Center's Classroom at Greenbelt 3 is now an authorized AATC, and will offer Apple-certified courses in consumer, schools, and technical tracks after which it has to be tapped their knowledge of Apple's Pro applications. The new AATC is now qualified to offer Apple certification exams for professionals looking to establish their expertise and further market their skills in the field of digital technology.

With two accredited Apple-certified Trainers, Greenbelt 3 Power Mac Center continues to train its employees to deliver quality educational services, with the end-view of an AATC accreditation for its other flagship stores, as well.

'Fly for Rare' in Mandaluyo

Everyone is invited to join the hair-flying event for the benefit of children with rare disorders, June 18 at Pancake, Lakefront, East Service Road, Sucat, Muntinlupa.

Registration fee is P300 per participant. Deadline for registration is June 15. For more information, text or call 0920-3025337 or 1256518, or e-mail info@rpgcc.org.ph, kevin@pinoy.org or yvonne.mallillin@rp.ph.

INNER AWARENESS

Jaime T. Licauco

Everyone encounters a meaningful moment to rediscover who you have met before in your past incarnations. We seldom meet a person by accident, because our souls never forget. All past relationships and all things we did in the past are recorded in our soul memory in our subconscious mind.

Under special moments, such as in deep meditation or during hypnotic regression, such memories can be accessed or recalled. Sometimes we are given hints of such memories in our dreams or nothing unless.

The fact that you are 30 years apart in physical age has no bearing on spiritual relationships. What is important is that you are the same soul age. In other words, you were each other the same time for the same number of times, although you may differ vastly in physical age. The same is true of romantic encounters.

To live out their lives in your subconscious, the following factors must all be present at all times. If one is missing, she is not your soulmate, but could be a karmic partner.

Irresistible force

First, there is a strong irresistible force that pulls you together, no matter what each of you is. When it is time for you to meet, you will meet.

Second, when you meet, there is absolute certainty that he or she is your perfect partner. There is total recognition from the very first meeting. Please note that I am not talking here of sexual or transitional attractions. I am talking of something much deeper.

Third, the relationship is total, meaning that you are compatible in all the seven levels of your being, and not merely on two or three levels. That's why soulmate encounters are very strong and very difficult to simply dismiss as infatuations.

Fourth, there is no feeling of guilt, no matter if society, religion, or your beliefs tell you that there is guilt, wrong. That's not a soulmate encounter. You will only suffer more if you continue the relationship.

Fifth, a true soulmate encounter is quite badly uplifting. It helps you to achieve a higher state of soul evolution than what you would achieve otherwise. A soulmate is one who helps you attain perfection and unites with God.

Much more is explained in my book and in my "Soulmates, Karma, & Reincarnation" seminar, which I will conduct on June 18 to Sunday from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. If you are interested to attend this, please call 8307241, 8135896 or 0920-9830892.

When you meet, there is absolute certainty that he or she is your perfect partner

DISCOVER THE QUEEN OF THE SOUTH: CEBU CITY

From the hidden paradise of Camotes island to the colorful festivities of Sinulog and the signature Cebuano warmth, Kim Chiu invites Filipinos to explore the oldest city in the Philippines

"Growing" is the first word that came to me as I perused my interview with Kim Chiu when asked to describe her fortunes in one word. Her past eight months have been nothing short of spectacular. Starting with her triumphant homecoming concert in Cebu City, she has been on a whirlwind tour of the country and abroad, performing in packed concerts with Sandwich, Gloc-9 and Kitchie Nadal. All this leads to the release of her debut album, which she wants to wholeheartedly declare from the rooftops of every city she visits.

Kim Off Mactan

Photos © 2011 Rappler Inc.

Kim insists her current debuts as a singer-performer is the fulfilling of a childhood dream. With hundreds of devoted fans in attendance, the first concert of a considered special event for the girl who has been performing on the said stage since she was a child. Kim's fans, affectionately known as "Chinitos," were treated during her 15-01 Magkaibi concert to a number of surprise guests. Sandwich, Gloc-9 and Kitchie Nadal all made appearances, with the latter two even joining Kim in a duet of Kitchie's hit song "Sa Ngalan Ng Pag-ibig." As the cast of Wansapanataym Presents: Kambal sa Uma reunited on stage, Kim's fans were treated to a performance of the hit song "Kambal sa Uma" by the two lead actresses.

The Queen of Kim's Heart

Photos © 2011 Rappler Inc.

Unfortunately, Kim doesn't always get to visit her hometown when she wants to. Aside from her busy schedule, Kim's family has relocated to Manila, leaving Cebu City less familiar and more foreign. Getting to Kim's hometown is a big challenge for the entire Chiu family. Kim's mother, Mrs. Chiu, is originally from Cebu City, and is known as the Queen of the North because of her many business properties and her network of friends and relatives in the area. Kim's father, Mr. Chiu, is originally from Cebu City, and is known as the Queen of the South because of his many business properties and his network of friends and relatives in the area.

City Off Limits

Kim insists her current debuts as a singer-performer is the fulfilling of a childhood dream. With hundreds of devoted fans in attendance, the first concert of a considered special event for the girl who has been performing on the said stage since she was a child. Kim's fans, affectionately known as "Chinitos," were treated during her 15-01 Magkaibi concert to a number of surprise guests. Sandwich, Gloc-9 and Kitchie Nadal all made appearances, with the latter two even joining Kim in a duet of Kitchie's hit song "Sa Ngalan Ng Pag-ibig." As the cast of Wansapanataym Presents: Kambal sa Uma reunited on stage, Kim's fans were treated to a performance of the hit song "Kambal sa Uma" by the two lead actresses.

City Of Simplicity And Festivity

Kim enjoys the simplicity of Cebu. Prior to becoming an actress, she was a very regular Cebuana. Weekdays, she commuted to and from her school, and weekends she spent at home or visiting some of her favorite hangouts. It seems that nothing delicious and affordable escapes Kim's mouth as sampling food vagabond culinary eggs and pusos (food adventures) are a favorite pastime of hers. "I love to eat. Every time I go home, I always make it a point to eat whatever is the latest craze in the food. The food in Cebu usually comes with plastic gloves and paper plates with plastic," she explains. "Like in Cebu, we even have food in the form of a boat."

One of the festivals that Kim recommends every Filipino to experience is the Sinulog Festival. Held every January, the celebration honors Santo Niño through a dance-ritual that symbolizes the Cebuanos' baptismal journey to

Photos © 2011 Rappler Inc.

partner in bright, colorful costumes, dancing to the rhythm of drums and tambourines. It is the highlight during the Sinulog festival, where all kinds of people gathering dancing and singing in honor of the patron. The festival also has contests between provinces and cities in the Philippines. Kim was a contestant in one of these contests, performing a unique dance number with plastic gloves and paper plates as costumes. "I remember walking the long road from the hotel to my venue and I'm getting tired. The adrenaline gets me all the energy that I needed," she recalls.

Paradise City

Kim admits that her life underwent a big transformation after her debut album was launched. It has brought her friends out of the woodwork, and her family has relocated to Manila. Kim misses the simple life she had in Cebu City, where she could walk around without being recognized. Nevertheless, Kim still considers Cebu City her paradise. "I feel more comfortable in Cebu. I can walk around without people recognizing me. I can go to the mall without people looking at me. I can go to the beach without people looking at me. I can go to the beach without people looking at me. I can go to the beach

Why nutrition is sexy

THERE ARE multiple benefits to good nutrition. By choosing the most nutritious foods, people can live longer, more productive lives. Eating healthful, as said Dolbie can make us look better, about ourselves and our bodies. Nutrition is sexy.

That is the cover story theme of the June issue of the Healthy Options Lifestyle Newsdigest. Good nutrition for kids, young adults, baby boomers and seniors entails a healthy glow and enjoy life.

In your 30s or 40s? As metabolism slows down, get into the habit of eating well by reading the article, "Nutrition for the Baby boomers." Read interesting articles on the "Top 10 healthy benefits of tomatoes," and "Top 5 foods for sexy skin."

Learn the nutritional benefits of nuts from the article, "Six Nuts, Six Glory". Read on how emotional well-being can be enriched by "This is Your Life—Be Happy Don't Worry," and see how you can incorporate 10 keys to happiness in your life.

Other articles in the latest issue of the Healthy Options Lifestyle Newsdigest focus on eating for your kids from month to school age, tips on overeating, brain food for kids, treating head lice, diabetes and obesity management, and many more.

The June 2011 issue of the Healthy Options Lifestyle Newsdigest is available free in supermarkets of Healthy Options stores. For more information, visit the Healthy Options website at www.healthyoptions.com.ph.

Living on Your Nerves? Calm Down.

Ever experienced hand numbness or "pins and needles"? Or how about that tingly sensation in your wrist (also known as Carpal Tunnel Syndrome)? Chances are, there's or your nerves (pun intended) is one point or another.

How exactly do you deal with them?

Below is a helpful guide on tackling the most common nerve problems:

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome

Carpal Tunnel Syndrome "is the effect of pressure on the median nerve, one of the main nerves of the hand."

Symptoms

Tingling, numbness, weakness, and pain in the fingers or hand are manifestations of Carpal Tunnel Syndrome. Some people experience sore pain, usually between the hand and the elbow.

The thumb, index finger, middle finger, and half of the ring finger can be one affected the most. It is said that if you have problems with these fingers but your little finger is ok, then it is possible you have Carpal Tunnel Syndrome.

Causes

There are several factors that can lead to Carpal Tunnel Syndrome:

1. Repeating the same hand movements continuously – nerve is where your hands are faster than your wrists
2. Hypothyroidism, rheumatoid arthritis and diabetes
3. Pregnancy
4. Obesity
5. Smoking
6. What injuries and bone spurs

Pins and Needles

"Pins and needles" or paresthesia, as it is medically known, is the sensation of uncomfortable tingling, usually in the limbs.

Symptoms

The affected area, usually within the hands or the feet, experiences initial numbness and heaviness. Another symptom is a pricking and tingling sensation in the skin.

Causes

Leaning or lying unfavorably on a limb is the most common cause. Others include:

1. Pressure on nerves
2. Reduced blood supply
3. Nerve injury
4. Hyperventilation or breathing excessively
5. The effect of toxic substances on the nerves, such as alcohol or lead
6. Certain medications
7. Diabetes
8. Multiple sclerosis
9. Hypothyroidism (underactive thyroid gland)
10. Transient ischaemic attack (TIA)
11. Stroke

Numbness

Numbness is an abnormal condition that can occur anywhere on the body, but is usually felt in the hands, feet, fingers and toes.

Symptoms

A person feels a loss of sensation or tingling.

Causes

In most cases, a lack of blood supply to an area of the nerve. Although chronic numbness in the limbs indicates some level of nerve damage due to diabetes or multiple sclerosis.

Treatment for Nerve Problems

Fortunately, hope is not lost. All nerve-related problems can be treated. Your physician can recommend non-surgical and surgical remedies for your condition.

As for your hands and feet (which, you'd said were the most numb most part), if you suffer from Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, try to rest your wrists as much as possible. You'll also need enough Vitamin B to help speed up nerve deficiencies in B vitamins can cause nerve pain and nerve damage. Doctors recommend taking Vitamin B-complex (Supraneuron) over-the-Rich in Vitamin B, it seems to regulate and rebuilding the protective structures that guard your nerves.

In a nutshell, it can help calm down your nerves and make you stop worrying from pain – so that life can go on. Common sense. The way it should be.

Sources:
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Mayo Clinic
Medicinenet.com
Wikipedia

New drug reduces risk of worsening ovarian cancer

ROCHE ANNOUNCED this week results from Ocean, a phase III study evaluating bevacizumab in combination with chemotherapy (gemcitabine and carboplatin) followed by the continued use of bevacizumab alone in women with previously treated (recurrent) platinum-sensitive ovarian cancer.

Women who received bevacizumab experienced a 52 percent reduction in the risk of their disease progressing, compared to women who received chemotherapy alone. Ocean results in Ocean were consistent with those seen in previous pivotal trials of bevacizumab across various types.

These results were featured in a press briefing at the 47th Annual Meeting of the American Society of Clinical Oncology in Chicago, USA.

"Women with recurrent ovarian cancer need new treatment options, and it is therefore so important advance we have the risk of disease progression in this vulnerable issues," said Hal Barron, MD, chief medical officer and head of Global Product Development.

In Ocean, women who received the treatment experienced the following results:

- A median progression-free survival (PFS – or the time without the disease progressing) of 12.4 months compared to 8.4 months in women who received chemotherapy alone.
- Tumor shrinkage in 78 percent of women receiving the regimen, compared to 57 percent of women who received chemotherapy alone.

Ocean, it a multi-center, randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled phase III study in 484 women with platinum-sensitive recurrent ovarian, primary peritoneal or fallopian tube cancer.

Ovarian cancer is the eighth most commonly diagnosed cancer in women and the seventh leading cause of cancer death among women worldwide. Annually, over 220,000 women will be diagnosed with ovarian cancer around the world, and approximately 140,000 will die from the disease.

Surgery to remove as much of the tumor as possible is a mainstay of treatment, but unfortunately, the majority of patients are diagnosed with late stage disease (when the cancer has grown or spread) and they require further treatment.

With the initial approval in the USA for advanced colorectal cancer in 2004, bevacizumab became the first anti-angiogenic therapy made widely available for the treatment of patients with an advanced cancer.

Headquartered in Basel, Switzerland, Roche is a leader in research-based healthcare, with combined strengths in pharmaceuticals and diagnostics.

LIFESTYLE Wellness

Three steps to avoiding depression

By Margo C. Enriquez
Contributor

IN 1995, American psychologist Diane Tillman met an accident when a female driver bumped on her car towards the rear. In her car lay tied over three times. Tillman hit her head in different spots. She admits being none of her intelligence after that, but she did not allow herself to be affected by the accident.

"I used to be really scared, and I'm not so smart anymore," says Tillman. "If I look at my friends, which ones do I prefer, the ones who are really smart, or the ones who are really sweet?"

To her, depression is an opportunity to learn so to acquire more positive.

"I allowed myself to lovingly accept the things that happened in my life. This is one of the keys to preventing depression and dealing with pain. If we can lovingly accept ourselves and our emotions, then negative ones don't stay very long. If I'm a little bit sad about something, so what, a child is a unfortunate, I can accept it with the light of love so I can let that part of myself that is feeling sad, it doesn't stay long. It's like I'm giving love to the person that I'm concerned about and I'm giving love to me."

> Think positive—'If we can lovingly accept ourselves and our emotions, then negative ones don't stay very long,' says American psychologist Diane Tillman

Tillman is a California-based, licensed educational psychologist, family therapist and author of "Living Values" series. She takes the positive psychology approach to dealing with depression.

Causes

It becomes depression when the sadness or ill feeling about something lingers for weeks. Depression comes in various degrees—mild, moderate, severe, down to a major depressive disorder with psychosis.

By convention, people are described as clinically depressed if they've been despondent and felt hopeless for a prolonged period and if they've lost interest in what they usually enjoy.

When something unexpected or upsets one thing happens, there is a tendency to become overwhelmed or arrogant.

"It knocks us off our seat of self-respect and love," she says.

Another reason depression becomes part of a person's routine is that there is a deep-seated negative imprint in the subconscious mind.

"For some people, it feels very old. A little thing happened, yes there's a reading inside."

Depression is also caused by the weakening of the core values of love and purity, says Tillman. Over time, people are so flustered by ego, attachment, anger, greed and selfishness.

"When I want love and attention from that person, then unacceptable other people stop being so important to me. As negative it may [take] up, I lack love towards many and even start abandoning the people I previous in love. I then feel sad or it kills me every time I feel that love, it becomes a void and if I start reaching to that void, it grows bigger and bigger. For some, that [the] deficiency becomes and it like a big gap."

In therapy, Tillman observes that patients often invest and abandonment when they indulge in their old pain, especially when triggered by a minor event. She adds that people tend to base their self-respect on the approval of society. If they don't get it, they become depressed.

"Take your self-respect from what is real—who you really are, because each one of us is absolutely beautiful. We all have gorgeous virtues and traits," she says.

She shares her three-step program to overcoming depression:

Step 1: Positive energy

"The first step is to increase your positive emotion and your spirit energy," she says. Meditate or pray, take in love and peace.

Have a sweet sweet in your mind. Think, I'm a jewel of consciousness. When there is spiritual energy, it's really hard to be unhappy.

"At night, write down the positive things, write letters of love to God or letters of happiness. If we can stay in the present and

SEMI-FINALISTS showed off for a chance to be one of the 12 finalists.

COSPLAY competition winners with Metron Guide editor Kenrick, cosplay goddess and Tattoo Ambassador Aleska Dominguez (in yellow) and Tim Yap

Hip timepieces, ultra-fast broadband

GLOBE TATTOO and Swatch recently hosted a fashion, music and cosplay event at TriNoma Mall that saw fast and anime-enthusiasts walking the runway to all their finery, vying for accolades and prizes from Tattoo and Swatch.

The Globe-powered Internet brand also introduced the first and fastest 4G broadband stick—Tattoo Tomo Lou—laughing with spools of agent Hedgie.

Swatch also launched its New Gents models designed by noted Japanese artist Hiroshi Matsuoka for the Swatch Art Collection. Two models, Windy Dandy Strawberry Embellishide, Lie Your Ears, Crocoba and Dusky Brigade.

Tattoo Ambassador Sarah Geagler was at the event, which also featured the music of Tonho Gosh, the latest in fashion by Jerome Salaya dog for Transmission, Rowan Tenorio for Windy Bunny, Jerome Leiva for Strawberry Embellishide inspired by geishas and cherry blossoms, Eric de los Santos for Dot Your Ears, Martin Escudero inspired by the character Crowbia, and Louie Chipmunks for Dusky Brigade.

Host Tim Yap together with Cosplay Tattoo Ambassador Aleska Dominguez also welcomed strategic Swatch endorsers Shaneo Cantinella, who talked about the latest watch collection.

TATTOO AMBASSADORS Sarah Geagler and Aleska Dominguez

The competition declared three winners: Dennis Bladaraog as "Italian Iron Boss" for Iron Blue category; Samantha de Guzman as "What took Lilith from Battle of Immortal" for Best Female character; and Ulrich Malagad as "Autumn" for Best Mecha character. They bagged a one-year subscription from Tattoo and a watch from Swatch's collection by Hiroyuki Matsuoka.

The event was led by Tattoo head of Nomadic Broadband Business Dong Bonquilla and Swatch Philippines president Virgie Ramos, joined by Cardinelli, Swatch Philippines creative director Russell Santiago, Ashley Encinofigbas and Swatch Philippines COO James Lucio.

Tattoo promo is ongoing until July 31. Grab a Tattoo Postpaid plan subscription of Php 999 or Php 1,299, and get a Tattoo gift certificate from Globe worth P1,500 or P1,500 that can be used to purchase a Swatch Watch from participating Swatch outlets nationwide. Tattoo subscribers can make use of their Tattoo gift certificates anytime until Sept. 30.

TATTOO head of Nomadic Broadband Business Dong Bonquilla and Swatch Philippines president Virgie Ramos

SWATCH Philippines creative director Russell Santiago and COO James Lucio

COSPLAY competition finalists

EMC dolls Sandra for Dot Your Ears

SWOOSH Lorica for Strawberry Embellishide

Three steps to avoiding depression

From page D1

fill our mind with love and peace, then are sullen emotional and spiritual energy and we have a conversion."

Positive energy can only be increased if there is care for body.

"If you need to be sad, angry, hurt, mad or lonely, you need to be very essential. Eat extra rice, eat well and eat more yourself. When I do chicken ups with people who are depressed, if I can get them off white sugar and artificial sweeteners, then my job is 50 percent easier. Their depression lightens up!"

Chocolates can give only a temporary high and artificial sweeteners can deepen the depression.

"Sugar is very downhill in its emotionality. Go off sugar for three months and see what happens. It is an addiction, it will really be very hard for the first two months, then it will really be easy. I know that a healthy diet is bad news if you have half a cup of brown rice, the serotonin, the chemical for well-being, in your brain will increase dramatically in 30 minutes."

Step 2: Avoid guilt

"Step two, learn how to avoid automatic negative habit you've developed over the years. Don't gossip, don't compare yourself with others, don't feel guilty," says Tillman.

"Guilt has been very useful for us because it's kept us good. But for how long are you going to need it? It is very useful, but only in five seconds. When I do something I'm uncomfortable with, I say to myself, 'Okay. Listen, join the human race. You, too, are human, you made a mistake. Now get over it. What you've learned over the course of the mistake? Then I convert the virtue that I need, I developed."

On conquering the self with others, Tillman quotes Mel Brennan's "Inside Out": "If you compare yourself with others, you may become vain or timid. In always there will be greater and lesser persons than yourself."

Tillman explains: "Understand that each one of us has a beautiful positive piece and has to make it as beautiful as it can be. If you don't make your piece beautiful, the whole picture will not be nearly as beautiful."

Step 3: Create an inner dialogue

We have to deal with our pain or sadness when it occurs. Just be aware of our emotions and lovingly accept our emotions. "Don't feel sad unnecessarily that others are ahead, feeling down, angry or tired, be aware of what's going inside.

"Do any of us have a mental voice inside? It's time to say goodbye to it. In transactional analysis, we have an inner child and there's another part of our self that is like a critical parent. The latter will try to suppress the voice of the inner child."

Depression subsequently leads to an outburst of negative feelings. "You get angry, sad, or feel worthless. You don't know why you're unhappy. It's because that negative part is trying to keep the inner child under control.

"It's time to have a dialogue with the critical parent and say, 'Critical parent, you are not helping me. Shut-ass me and love me and then you can help me grow,'" she says.

"There's a morning parent inside that can actually nurture the part that is depressed and give us love, because basically our human need is to be loved. Why do we get depressed? Because we're feeling a loss of love. We're afraid we won't be happy. We're afraid things will not be okay. When you feel bad, you can actually deal with your self and find a solution. The nurturing parent is the best part of you. The inner child is the mind. Take the inner child out of the realm mode."

Exercises

Tillman recommends an exercise when you feel troubled. Take out a piece of paper and put the inner child on the left side and put the nurturing self on the right. Write on it the first thing in the morning. Find out where the answers are.

"This wise part can talk to you. You will find then that the child will become an adult. It will let you know when you are vulnerable. If we nurture our inner child, it can grow into the adult that is the source of strength, comfort and protection for us. Where you feel bad, don't communicate over it for months. Look at the root and see what's happening so you can change. Find out when needs to be done (rational). What is the virtue I need to have, that I'd like to develop, or what is the quality I need to have?"

Walking is a great way to stimulate the endorphins, the hormones that reduce pain and create pleasure feelings. Also, talk to a friend you trust, says Tillman.

"Try not to give any solutions. When people express a problem and get an unsolicited advice, they just feel injected as if they're doing something wrong. "So first, listen," Tillman maintains. "Appreciate your fears, and then ask, 'Would you like the problem solved?'"

Listening to others is a sacred offering that is valued when people feel loved. "Listening is an act of respect and love. Do you feel better when you've been listened to? The essence is that we as human beings do not accept any one mindset. So when you are listened to in a sacred space of love, you are getting love and respect. The problem doesn't feel so big and you're able to then perhaps deal with it better, accept your self more, and come up with some other solutions."

"The antidote to depression is positive thoughts for all others. Always have good wishes and pure feelings for everyone all the time. Then there's no space for this fear. Tell yourself to love self. Create a nurturing parent."

More answers to wellness questions

CALL IT the improvement of the individual. The pull of this concept is obvious—you can take charge of your life more and refocus your looking back, you keep ahead knowing that you can and will win any battle. So far, we conquer your wellness goals. Here are the answers to some of your questions.

Q: Do your own affirmations reflect a positive change in you?

It's in all the mind development and self-improvement books. Your state of wellness is dependent on a balance of body, mind and spirit or MBS.

Scientific studies have shown that the mind influences the body in ways that can determine its illness or well-ness. If you choose wellness, then it is clearly explained that a calm and life-affirming state of mind can directly boost the immune system. And vice-versa...if your mind is constantly depressed, the immune system becomes compromised.

A mind-heart that dwells on sadness, bitterness and anger prepares the body to welcome sickness. And that is where affirmations come in. Because the cool word cocaine "to affirm," affirmations do exactly what they were meant to do—affirm life. Take it from there.

So now, let's do something wonderful for you, shall we? You have nothing to lose. If you love telling yourself something repeatedly, you will, in the end, believe it.

Start by telling yourself something good. Besides, you deserve it. Kinnie, who is "I am in perfect health," "I feel great," "I deserve only the best," "I am successful," "My dreams are manifesting now!" And she for one go on and on.

You are more than welcome to your own affirmations. But can do you no harm—simply because they can only do you good. If you combine these with prayer, how much more powerful they become. Make time for prayer and meditation today.

Q: Practically all my childhood and early adult life, I have been on asthma medication. They don't seem to be working for me anymore. Are there any natural remedies?

Finding the root cause of your allergies should be your first step toward taking better control of your condition.

INSIDE OUT

Cory Quirino

Affirmations help balance your body, mind and spirit

Allergists believe a supersensitive immune system is an inherited trait.

Exposure to environmental triggers like mold spores (from dirty carpets and air-conditioning) pollen, pollution, cold air and cigarette smoke are the usual suspects. Find out what your triggers are. Learning to control asthma attacks, which quickly open up airways and reduce inflammation. But here are multifaceted approaches:

✦ Dietary counseling—Make sure food allergies and intolerances.

✦ Magnesium—This mineral helps relieve inflammation by stabilizing the immune system, and it helps in the elimination of lung-irritating chemicals. Moreover, it produces anti-inflammatory biochemicals called prostaglandins.

All these, says Dr. John Bethesda of the respiratory unit of City Hospital, Birmingham, England, help relieve congestion and hyperreactivity. According to their study, people who took 400 mg of magnesium daily were fairly improved and relief.

Natural sources include the energy-rich oil from fish like mackerel, salmon, sardines and tuna. If you have an allergy to milk, peanuts, eggs, etc., take supplements in supplement form and fish oil capsules.

Warning: Stay away from processed foods that contain sulfites, which are found in avocado dips, salads and shellfish.

✦ If you are on steroids, stay away from salt-sodium because you may have problems with fluid retention.

✦ Always consult your physician. If you have a respiratory infection, you should see a doctor before taking supplements.

Q: Help me release up my chi.

Your chi is a reflection of what you are. Because it is the largest drive organ of the body, one of its main roles is to get rid of toxins through your sweat.

Quick remedies:

✦ Start sweating now—Exercise daily, and sweat comes easily.

✦ Drink water—Drink 10-15 glasses of water—but not all at once, please! Two glasses every 1½ hours is perfect.

✦ Load up on C—Eat everything high in vitamin C—pineapple, guava, kiwi, papaya, broccoli and citrus (ask grapefruit).

✦ Eat more green leafy vegetables, and eat the junk food.

✦ Change your cosmetics. You may be sensitive to some of the ingredients. Switch to a hypoallergenic line. Visit your dermatologist.

✦ Stress—Manage your stresses, volunteerism and relaxers they may be. Emotional imbalances reflect on the skin. Try relaxation regimens.

Your affirmation: "I am in control of my morning hormone."

Love and light!

Top Pinoy athletes endorse healthy, delicious meals

PHIL SUMMONTANIO and his brother Amos, of the Philippine football team Ateneo, with champion surfer Lorena Lopez and professional model Ms. Vina Tantoco, are the latest ambassadors of the go to glass for delicious healthy eating, Sunny Rogers Rotisseries.

These four are true examples of individuals who lead a life that is both sportsminded and very healthy. They have achieved a balance, where they get to do what they enjoy and enjoy what they are doing. They're fueled by the fresh, flavorful and delicious, healthy food from Sunny Rogers Rotisseries.

Sunny has long been an advocate of delectably healthy eating. You get to choose from perfectly roasted and golden chicken or freshly grilled fish that satisfies. Tender rolling dishes and Kenny's Ginger Roast Chicken. It's perfect for anytime. I love how juicy and flavorful it is," says Phil.

"I can never go wrong with the food at Sunny Rogers Rotisserie," said James. "There's always something delicious to eat to give me the energy I need to train."

Recently, Sunny Rogers Rotisseries added to their delectable dishes to its already extensive menu. Try out Sunny's Rotisserie Chicken, perfectly roasted to golden brown that come with flavorful chicken rice, piping hot soup, and served with ginger chili and sweet soy sauce.

PHCA Tambirao, Phil Young, husband

JAMES Youngblood

Also, there's Sunny's Pecans Yoghurt. It's the perfect blend of rotisseries and that's just there you've come to love in yoghurt. Both are already available at your favorite Sunny Rogers Rotisseries branch.

For more information and for Sunny orders, call 2338888. Visit its website, homecare.com.ph. Don't forget to like Kenny Rogers Roasters on facebook.

Less pressure on the body when walking

THE WORLD'S most fashionable Brazilian footwear brand, Ipanema, offers sandals that cushion to every contour of the sole, which means less pressure on the body when walking.

Its Hip Hops give arm contours additional cushion with various combinations of slip-on bases, sexy designs, printed soles, vibrant colors and design reminiscent of Brazil's scenery and beaches.

The brand is said to be one of the most comfortable and sustainable footwear. Each pair is made of latex-soft materials that are 99 percent recyclable. The latex-core material is flexible, hypoallergenic, with soft and perfectly padded soles.

Ipanema also pioneered the creation of state-of-the-art footwear for flip-flops, such as wedges, 3D details and elaborate finishes.

Higher-heeled sandals are perfect for dressier styles, while 3D designs give your feet an edgy look. And stylish heels in eye-catching neon colors, whether it's a glitter or matte coating, a crystal or classic.

Ipanema boasts about its many chic and stylish sandals by visiting www.ipanemaphil.com.

IPANEMA: Hip Hops with clip-on hot, cozy things, priced sales.

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FACT SHEET: HOW TOBACCO SMOKE RAISES YOUR HEALTH IS

Here are more facts from the Office of the Surgeon General of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services:

- Smoking longer means more damage.
- Both the risk and the severity of many diseases caused by smoking are directly related to the length of time the person has smoked and the number of cigarettes smoked per day.
- Inhaling tobacco smoke causes inflammation and cell damage, and weakens the immune system. The body makes white blood cells to respond to injuries, infections, and cancers. While blood cell counts may high while smoking continues, meaning the body is constantly fighting against the damage caused by smoking cancer can lead to disease in any part of the body.
- Smoking can reduce cancer and weaken your body's ability to fight cancer. Both can cause — cells. Some risk related to tobacco use — smoking can decrease the benefits of chemotherapy and other cancer treatments. Exposure to tobacco smoke can help tumors grow.
- The chemicals in tobacco smoke complicate the regulation of blood sugar levels, exacerbating the damage caused by smoking from diseases. Nicotine also stimulates the release of sugar into the blood stream, sometimes for hours, causing fat stores, nerve damage and poor circulation.
- Cigarettes are designed for addiction.
- The design and variables of tobacco products make them more attractive and addictive than they should be. Cigarettes today deliver nicotine more quickly from the lungs to the brain and harder.
- While nicotine is the key chemical compound that causes and sustains the powerful addicting effects of cigarettes, other ingredients and design features make them even more attractive and more addictive.
- The powerful addicting elements of tobacco products affect multiple types of nicotine receptors in the brain.
- Evidence suggests that psychosocial, biologic, and genetic factors may also play a role in nicotine addiction.
- Adolescents' bodies are more sensitive to nicotine, and adolescents are more easily addicted than adults. This video explains why about 1,000 teenagers become new, regular users. (Office of the Surgeon General, 2010).

Smoking or quitting? We can help. Email marketing@medicardphil.com for more information.

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Special Feature

HEPATITIS Q&A

Marilyn O. Argüelles, M.D., FPCP, FPSG, FPSAM
President
Hepatology Society of the Philippines (HSP)

Viral Hepatitis and the Hepatology Society of the Philippines

At the annual World Assembly in Geneva, Switzerland in May last year, the World Health Organization (WHO) passed a much-awaited resolution recognizing viral hepatitis as a global health hazard stating that many needs to be done to prevent and control these diseases (Viral Hepatitis A, B, C, D). It was the first time that viral hepatitis was given the attention in the world stage. The resolution also stated that the WHO will be actively involved in the process to offer support and guidance to its member states all over the world to combat these diseases. To highlight the importance of this global health problem, starting 2011, July 28 will be World Hepatitis Day.

In preparation for World Hepatitis Day, the Hepatology Society of the Philippines (HSP) through this column will provide much-needed information regarding viral hepatitis and other liver diseases.

The Hepatology Society of the Philippines is a national organization formed in 2006 from the Liver Council of the Philippine Society of Gastroenterology. Dr. Erlinda Valdellon, Past President of the Philippine Society of Gastroenterology, was the founding President.

The basic goals of the HSP are to promote research and education that will address the development of improved strategies for the control and treatment of liver and biliary tract diseases, support health care and community service development towards improving the diagnosis, treatment and control of diseases in this field.

The Hepatology Society of the Philippines aims to be the lead organization committed to the study of the liver in health and its diseases; it is also committed to vigorously provide and promote quality and up-to-date information to the medical community and to the public.

Towards fulfillment of this aim, the HSP has conducted continuing medical education through the Liver Caravan, a 2-day medical conference focusing on diagnosis and management of common and important liver diseases in Cebu, Iloilo, Angeles, Lipa, Davao City, Tacloban City, and Naga City in the past 3 years. This year the HSP hopes to bring the Liver Caravan to General Santos City in September.

During the Liver Caravan, public health education focusing on the four anti-viral diseases or practices can affect the liver — viral hepatitis, alcoholic liver disease, fatty liver, herbal medications and food supplements — is also conducted among Barangay Health Workers (Cebu, Iloilo, Davao, Tacloban) and nursing students (Lipa, Naga).

The Hepatology Society also aims to actively collaborate with the government in formulating liver-related health policies.

The HSP was part of the Technical Working Group which helped formulate the landmark Department of Labor and Employment Advisory No. 5 Series of 2010 Guidelines for the Implementation of a Workplace Policy and Program on Hepatitis B which became effective on January 1, 2011. Senator Pia Cayetano has been a very active partner of HSP in its viral hepatitis advocacy and played a major role in the ratification of the DOLE Advisory.

This is a landmark document because under its Social Policy it is clearly stated that there shall be no discrimination of any form against workers on the basis of their Hepatitis B status. they shall not be discriminated against, from pre- to post-employment, including hiring, promotion and assignment because of their Hepatitis B status. (www.dole.gov.ph)

Lastly, the Hepatology Society also aims to act in partnership with the global community by sharing medical information, services, and expertise towards the prevention and treatment of liver-related diseases.

Dr. Jose Sollano, Jr. Immediate Past President of the HSP is a much sought-after speaker in international conferences. He is a Past President of the Asian Pacific Association for the Study of the Liver (APASL). The current President of the HSP, Dr. Marilyn O. Argüelles, was the previous Executive Council Member for the Philippines of the APASL and Dr. Diana Payawal, Board Member is the current Executive Council Member for the Philippines of the APASL. The HSP will be hosting an international conference (Single Topic Conference on Hepatocellular Carcinoma) in December 2012.

Dr. Marilyn O. Argüelles is a graduate of the University of the Philippines College of Medicine and is the President of the Hepatology Society of the Philippines. She is currently the Chairman of the Department of Internal Medicine of the Davao Doctors Hospital.

Pinoy dance crew heads to world hip-hop championship

ON JULY 28-31, eight of the country's best young dancers, known as the group Legit Status, will represent the Philippines in the 2011 World Hip-Hop Dance Championship in Las Vegas, the most respected annual international hip-hop dance competition of the last 16 years.

The prestigious competition is opened by the world's foremost authority on street dance, Hip Hop International, creator of the hit television show "America's Best Dance Crew."

As in the previous two years, Legit Status has accepted the invitation to be an official representative of the Philippines to the competition under the Variety Division (for dancers 16 and under). They compete against the top dance crews from over 30 nations through a two-minute routine, competing for the championship title, international bragging rights, cash, and prizes at the Red Rock Resort and Casino, Las Vegas, Nevada.

Thanks to the Philippine All-Stars, the first and only crews in the world to have bagged the world title twice in the Adult Division of the said competition (in 2006 and 2008), and prominent Filipino in "America's Best Dance Crew" winners Ash Sawyerkoz and Poreotics, the Philippines has come forward as one of the most reputable countries in terms of street dance.

Legit Status is composed of eight members handpicked from different prominent dance troupes: LBGH Artform, AC Dance Troupe, Chaos Theory, and the CDA Dance Troupe.

Legit Status will be headlining their own concert on June 25, at the Bluebird Market Activity Center in Fort Bonifacio. Taping City is raise funds for the team's trip to Las Vegas.

The University of the Philippines' The Crew and other professional dance groups will also be participating in the concert, making it one of the biggest gatherings of the best dance acts in the Philippines.

E-mail legitstatusvs@gmail.com or call 0917-5705780.

LEGIT Status will represent the Philippines in the 2011 World Hip-Hop Dance Championship in Las Vegas.

ELLESSE Global Online Survey winners (Mylene Collejo, Vivian Aguilar and Rhizgail Ty with Leslie Santos (2nd from left), Premier Group of Companies' AVP for PGB and regional brand manager for Ellesse and Ellesse brand associate Donna dela Cruz-Chavez (3rd from right)

Pinays are among big winners in global online survey raffle

ELLESSE ITALIA held a global online promotion through a consumer survey on its website. For the Philippines, the consumer survey was made available in the Facebook fanpage of the Premier Group of Companies, exclusive distributor of the brand in Southeast Asia.

Best known as a high-quality sportswear brand, Ellesse has now grown to become a lifestyle brand that's inspired through its line-up of footwear, now available through Premier Group concept stores such as Streetpack, ROOC and Boo Tee Hun.

The online survey helped 63 brave girls to know via Philippine market better. By simply filling up the survey form, participants were able to share valuable consumer input, and also become eligible for Ellesse's online raffle. Ellesse randomly selected 21 winners from different countries. Twenty winners received a pair of Ellesse footwear and sweaters, while one lucky participant received 1,000 euros.

Four lucky ladies ended up as the top winners from the Philippines. Vivian Aguilar, a bank employee from Marikina, emerged as the grand prize winner, taking home the 1,000 euros.

The other three ladies who won in the online raffle were Mylene Collejo, a housewife; Rhizgail Ty, an insurance agent; and Melissa Santos.

Visit www.ellesse.com for more details about Ellesse. To be part of the Premier Group of Companies Facebook fanpage, like www.facebook.com/premiergroup.

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ELLESSE Global Online Survey grand winner Vivian Aguilar (center) with Ellesse Leslie Santos (left) Primer Group of Companies AVP for PGB and regional brand manager and Ellesse brand associate Donna dela Cruz-Chavez (right)

New drug helps Pinoys battle hypertension

TOP GENERIC medicines provider Pharex Health-Corp steps up its drive to help Filipinos battle hypertension with the launch of its newest drug, irbesartan/hydrochlorothiazide or HCTZ.

HCTZ is a water pill that helps prevent the body from absorbing too much salt, which can cause fluid retention. The formation is instrumental in the treatment of hypertension, as it helps decrease blood pressure by promoting diuresis or increase in urination.

"Pharex has always taken an active part in the Philippines' battle against hypertension," said Pharex Health-Corp president and chief executive officer Teresa Marcella Ngasue III.

"With the inclusion of HCTZ to our portfolio of hypertension medicines, we hope to give Filipinos access to a wider range of high-quality and affordable medications to help them manage hypertension."

HCTZ provides the first line of defense for mild and uncomplicated hypertension.

Studies showed that thiazide diuretic have been proven effective in achieving blood pressure control, while enhancing the anti-hypertensive efficacy of other drugs.

Thiazide diuretic was also the basis of most hypertension therapy guidelines issued worldwide and recommended as an initial drug for mild, uncomplicated hypertension, as well as an add-on drug for stage 2 hypertension.

More importantly, thiazide has been found to be more affordable compared with other classes of anti-hypertensives. It is priced lower by almost 50 percent, compared with branded hypertensive drugs in the market today.

Ask your doctor now how Pharex's HCTZ can help you manage your hypertension more effectively.

ENTERTAINMENT

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HIROYUKI MATSUURA designs for SWATCH

Swatch is pleased to present new work by the noted Japanese artist, Hiroyuki Matsuura.

Hiroyuki Matsuura works in a variety of formats—painting, sculpture and limited edition multiples—in Japan and abroad. His colorful characters seem to speak directly to the viewer, and his work on "the world's smallest canvas" for Swatch has the same bold, larger-than-life dimension. His characters may live in a fictional world, but they seem entirely familiar to us, intimate friends and fellow travelers in space.

Hiroyuki Matsuura has designed six New Gents—Transmission, Strawberry Switchblade, Ecsenia, Windy Bunny, Ducky Brigade and Use Your Ears.

Hiroyuki Matsuura Swatch watches are exclusively available at Swatch Stores and Boxes.

'Gentleman' singer Ne-Yo now a hitman on TV

By Amy Pisuena
Contributor

NE-YO in a scene with Lesley-Ann Brandt in "CSI New York"

A MUSICIAN pop-R&B star Shaffer "Ne-Yo" Smith uses his singing, writing and producing talents to style himself as a romantic and—to borrow the title of his acclaimed third album—a "gentleman." However, he is coming episode of "CSI New York," airing July 7 on AXN Asia, the music stars takes on the guise of a cold-blooded hitman. And yes, he does totally eschew his flair.

"Well, that is what I asked Ne!" the 31-year-old hitman-cum-ex told the Inquirer in a recent phone interview. "When the CSI people got in touch, I told them I wanted to be the character running around with a gun, killing people, because that's definitely not what people expect from me. It wasn't easy, though. I had to work with an acting coach to get in the head of this guy."

As a new actor, whose only previous acting experience were in lighthearted fare like "Stomp the Yard" and "Save the Last Dance 2" and the video game inspired "Battle: Los Angeles," Ne-Yo is determined to better himself in his side career.

Best advice

"The best piece of advice I ever got was to never look like I was acting," he said. "But I didn't know how to be a killer. Working remotely over the character was hard."

Thankfully for him, his work hasn't gone unnoticed. On the happier Ne-Yo is a possible prestige film, produced by no less than George Clooney.

"Yeah, it's called 'Red Tails,' and it's based on the story of the Tuskegee Airmen, who were the only African-American fighter pilots allowed to do combat duty in World War II," said Ne-Yo. "I'm working here with people like Cuba Gooding, it itself because Howard, and it's been an amazing experience, and such an exciting story. Those were men were fighting two wars—enemies in Europe and at the same time battling discrimination and bigotry back home."

What annoys him

He does find the lack of sound inherent in shooting movies a bit irritating. "Music for me is just a lot more natural," he pointed out. "There's an element in acting that's kind of annoying to me, like when you're up and ready—actually where people say they're actually used you on the set and then you wait for four hours. That irks the hell out of me. I'm like, 'I'm getting you my time here. Don't waste it.'"

Annoyances aside, Ne-Yo has developed a lot of respect for the people he's worked with. "CSI: New York' in particular was a great learning experience, because it helped me get acquainted with the actor in me," he noted. "It was a lot of fun, but I definitely developed respect for the craft. I mean, Gary Sinise it is a fantastic actor, one of my favorites, and I really learned a lot from watching him work."

For inspiration, he looks to fellow musicians-turned-actor Will Smith. "I love his work ethic," Ne-Yo said. "He has a good, and he's never going to stop until he gets to where he wants to be. No matter what the obstacles, no matter how many times he will get there. It's very inspiring for me."

Will he career going to the next level, Ne-Yo appreciates the opportunities his future plans with a mix of confidence and trepidation. "How am I going to proceed from here? How carefully," he said. "I'm definitely not gonna stop doing music. But if I'm approached with the right role, I will give it a look. I wouldn't call moving to acting a second step, for instance, because that would imply the first step was easy. And I'm never going to be labeled a one-hit wonder."

In fact, his future career is so prodigious as even after releasing four albums in five years, he's dropping his fifth album later this year. But that's just the tip of the iceberg of coming Ne-Yo projects.

"I'm a huge fan of animation and cartoons, and I have a cartoon I wrote and developed for Cartoon Network that is in production right now," he revealed. "We're still putting the finishing touches on it. I have a fast line and a clothing line coming up. I'm about to be the spokesperson for a new Malibu there and tequila line, coming out soon. I'm looking for artists, writers and producers for my label, Compound. I'm doing a lot of different things right now, because I want to take the chance to do all the things I want."

So the plan is to become a brand? "Pretty much," he laughed.

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ILOCOS NORTE

ALBUM TOUR

Ryan Bang

WALL EVENTS

Dad's Incredible

Buzz on gigs...

JAMES Cantrell, presenter of "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber" when opening June 24 at the CCP

Three thumbs up for new American Idol Scotty McCreery

AT ONLY 17 years old, Scotty McCreery has just been hailed as the latest "American Idol." Here can we expect his career to progress in the coming months and years? Will he be known to the rest like Kelly Clarkson and Carrie Underwood, or will he lose steam and prove our like Reuben Studdard?

VIEWFINDER

Senator C. Jover

SCOTTY McCreary

Why Andrew Lloyd Webber is pop

"Andrew Lloyd Webber's music sticks in your brain," said James Cantrell, artistic director, Theatrical Productions is bringing to an Australian concert to perform "The Music of Andrew Lloyd Webber," starting June 24 to the Cultural Center of the Philippines. The show runs till July 3.

Cantrell's comment was in reply to the frequently question during a recent press con an order for classic Webber's composi. music are not really high art, even as he compared the British artist's talent with that of classical composers. "He changes the genre and does the whole game. You have the theater hastening the songs, it's unique. Webber's music is Top 40 pop," said Cantrell.

MOVIE TIME

GLORIETTA 4

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
2: SUPER 8
3: INSIDIOUS
4: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 4 / HANGOVER 2
5: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
6: HANGOVER 2
7: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

GREENBELT 5

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

GREENBELT 3

1: HANGOVER 2
2: RESERVED
3: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
4: KUNG FU PANDA 2
5: SUPER 8

ALABANG TOWN CENTER

1: SUPER 8
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
3: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
4: PRAY
5: HANGOVER 2

AYALA CENTER CEBU

1: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
2: SUPER 8
3: HANGOVER 2
4: KUNG FU PANDA 2

MARQUEE

1: SUPER 8
2: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
3: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
4: HANGOVER 2

MARKET! MARKET!

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: INSIDIOUS
3: HANGOVER 2
4: SUPER 8
5: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
6: RESERVED
7: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

TRINOMA

1: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
2: INSIDIOUS
3: KUNG FU PANDA 2 (3D)
4: PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN 4 / HANGOVER 2
5: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
6: HANGOVER 2
7: SUPER 8

ABREEZA

1: KUNG FU PANDA 2
2: SUPER 8
3: HANGOVER 2
4: X-MEN: FIRST CLASS

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Concert kicks off bid for Palawan river to be named a world wonder

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

WHEN it comes to the campaign to make the Puerto Princesa Underground River one of the New 7 Wonders of Nature, there are no bitter enemies here, just a unanimous opinion to get together and achieve a worthy goal.

This was what happened last week when various performing artists (stars, stars) TV stations bonded together at the Quezon Memorial Circle for Tayog Pilipinas(pasasalamat) music festival initiated by singer-songwriter Noel Cabangon to encourage more Filipinos to support the bid of the Puerto Princesa Underground River to join the short list of new world wonders.

The free concert extended by over 5,000 fans, including some coming from as far as Bataan, featured Cabangon himself, Gigi dePaul, Jim Paredes, Bing dela Cruz, Armando, Eddie Carbon, Glen S. Nera, Fonacs, Julianne, Hermanya and Brian Escalante, awardless comedians of yesteryears in the scene.

Hosts Pinky Amador and Sharon Cuneta of radio show "The Buzz Ed" kept the party going from 4 p.m. to early 7pm that night but was fortunately spared from rain.

Cabangon told the Inquirer that he organized the outing event as a fitting follow-up to the signing last June 1 of the Green Cities Agreement between Quezon City and Puerto Princesa City which formalized efforts of both cities to protect the environment and promote ecotourism.

SOME of the artists who performed to support the bid for Puerto Princesa Underground River to be named a world wonder, with concert organizer Noel Cabangon (bare-arm, right).

"I had help from Ogie Alcasid to getting the artists together but it was not hard to get their support. Many of them are my friends in the showbiz and they believe in the cause," Cabangon said.

Aside from the concert gathering, the campaign also gained support from actors, newscasters, politicians, filmmakers, athletes and celebrities who encouraged their followers to support the Puerto Princesa campaign.

To support the campaign, you online at http://www.new7wonders-of-nature.com/ and vote by 2011. One can also be part of Wonderground Ambassadors at Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/Wonder11 and follow the campaign on Twitter at http://twitter.com/Wonder11nd.

Encouraged by the turnout at the concert, Cabangon said the next step now is to bring Team Wonderground to the different schools to encourage students to vote for the Puerto Princesa Underground River.

For Cabangon, the work has just begun.

Significant stake

Both sides have a significant stake in environmental protection, since they host sites that are vital to the environment. Quezon City has the La Mesa Eco Park while Puerto Princesa has the Underground River—one of 30 finalists for the New 7 Wonders of Nature competition, which seeks to recognize the world's greatest symbols of nature.

Sarah hangs on to No. 1

THE TOP-SELLING albums in the country for the week May 30-June 5, based on Odyssey Music & Video's nationwide sales reports:

OPM

1) Sarah Geronimo, "Star Heart," Viva Records; 2) Willie Revillame, "I Love You," Viva Records; 3) Mayonnaise, "Hanap Ng Dinadaanan," PolyEast Records; 4) Jessa Zaragoza, "Nadadala" (see Records; 5) Various Artists, "My Pinoko Demand 3," Universal Records; 6) Angeline Quinto, "Angeline Quinto," Viva Records; 7) Jessa Zaragoza, "Di Ko Anything For Love," Star Records; 8) Princess Velasco, "Acoustic Princess," Viva Music; 9) Eric Appleo, "My Heart's Journey," Universal Records; 10) Noel Cabangon, "Bahay," Universal Records.

Overall

1) Lady Gaga, "Born This Way," MCA Music; 2) Sarah Geronimo, "Star Heart," Viva Records; 3) Bruno Mars, "Doo Wops & Hooligans," Warner Music; 4) Willie Revillame, "I Love You," Viva Records; 5) Maroon Heaven, "Hanap Ng Dinadaanan," PolyEast Records; 6) Various Artists, "Best Of Piano & Worship Music," Star Music; 7) Various Artists, "Wall Band: Maximum Dance Hits," Star Music; 8) Various Artists, "Mr. Blue Returns: David Foster & Friends," Warner Music; 9) Jennifer Lopez, "Love?" MCA Music; 10) Adele, "21," Warner Music

MARTIN Nievera is No. 1 OPM

odyssey
MUSIC & VIDEO

POWER PLANT CINEMA
SUPER 8 — 3D
X-MEN: FIRST CLASS — 2:00, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
THE HANGOVER 2 — 3D
1:10, 3:50, 6:30, 9:10
THE HANGOVER 2 — 3D
12:30, 2:55, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55
X-MEN: FIRST CLASS — 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
SUPER 8 — 1:00, 3:20, 5:40, 7:50, 10:20

EASTWOOD CINEMAS
SUPER 8
THE HANGOVER PART II
X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
KUNG FU PANDA 2
SUPER 8
THE HANGOVER PART II
X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
SUPER 8
ULTRA 7

SHANG CINEPLEX
1) SUPER 8 (3D)
2) X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
3) THE HANGOVER 2
4) FRENCH FILM FESTIVAL
KUNG FU PANDA 2
French Film Festival
June 10, 2011
TUESDAY

JIM CARREY
MR. POPPER'S PENGUINS
OPENS JUNE 17 (FRI)

NEWPORT CINEMAS
1) X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
1:45, 4:45
THE HANGOVER 2
1:45, 10:15
2) THE HANGOVER 2
12:45, 3:15, 5:45, 8:15, 10:45
3) SUPER 8 in 3D
1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:25
4) SUPER 8
11:45, 5:15, 10:30
X-MEN: FIRST CLASS
2:15, 7:45

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A. LUPIN

BY JESS ABRERA

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BY PH_LEDESMA

DICK TRACY

LOVE & MOOTS

BY ELIZABETH HOCHSWELD

BABY BLUES

BY JERRY SCOTT

RIKO MACHINE

BY RYAN ABRERA

SEN

BY DANIEL SHELTON

MUTTS

SHERMAN'S LAGOON

BY JIM TOOMEY

DUSTIN

BY STEVE KELLEY AND JEFF PARKER

TULDOG

BY RINA COLI

HOROSCOPE

BY FRANCES DRAKE

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Avoid discussions about financial transactions. Misfortunes and problems will properly or both, be resolved if you're willing to compromise. Be a diplomat and the best you can with others tomorrow's Full Moon. Hugs.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Be more patient with partners and those friends today. Avoid arguments and heated exchanges of opinions. Keep cool, and everything will be fine. Tomorrow's Full Moon is a time of happening. This is because of the Full Moon tomorrow. Easy does it.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Be patient with co-workers and customers today. People are inclined to be overly emotional. Don't get involved with their problems. Be sympathetic, but don't get involved. Be diplomatic with others. Tomorrow's Full Moon is a very good one. Do not

Birthdate of: Pierce Brosnan, actor; Jeff Bridges, actor; Lucy Liu, actress.

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Is best summary of home, and with in the family. Try to be cooperative and tolerant with others. Don't be impatient with others today. It's one of those days where people should relax.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Avoid arguments with daily associates today. Keep your opinions to yourself. Don't be critical of others today. Tomorrow's Full Moon is a time for happiness. Try to be more cooperative with others.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 23) Problems concerned shared interests about relationships, both financial and personal. Don't let your emotions get the better of you. Don't be overly sensitive. Tomorrow's Full Moon is another day

SCORPIO (Oct. 24 to Nov. 21) You might feel too emotionally concerned about intimate issues, relationships or possessions. Concentrate more on share something advice to the tough dollar. You will be glad to do it!

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Assume the role that you are a delegation and more of your responsibilities today. Don't let others take this with you or the fulfillment each your life.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Don't let your emotions run away with you today. Don't make too eagerly for something to come with you and others.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Avoid disagreements with friends, especially in group situations, today. Arguments can arise quickly. Who needs this? Be you. Postponements or questions for another day.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) This is a good day for the beginning. Avoid emotional, anxiety, apathetic and other things with your friends are upside. Instead, be respectful.

CONCEPTIS SU DOKU

HOW TO PLAY SU DOKU

Fill the grid so that each row, column, and every 3×3 box contains the digits 1 to 9. For more programs visit www.sudoku.com

Answer to previous puzzle

6	2	5	9	7	1	4	8	3
4	9	8	3	6	5	7	1	2
7	1	3	8	4	2	5	6	9
8	3	6	4	5	7	2	9	1
5	4	9	2	1	8	6	3	7
2	7	1	6	9	3	8	4	5
3	8	4	7	2	6	9	5	1
9	6	2	1	8	4	3	7	8
1	5	7	5	3	9	1	2	4

Concepts Sudoku By Dave Green

			7	5			4	9
	3					8		1
				9			2	
7			2					
9		4		8		6		2
					9			5
	7			1				
2		1					6	
8	5			3	4			

Difficulty Level ★★

CROSSWORD PUZZLE

Solution to previous puzzle

Cherry Pie willing to work again with Baron

MORE power from stars' dads:

ARJO MIRANDA: I am the favorite version of my Dad; carbon copy wise also. I got my passion for acting from him. He proved the way to show his love for me, which somehow gave me an edge since I was carrying his name at the height of his popularity in the 1980s.

* * *

GARY VALENCIANO: "Every time I look at my Dad, one thing consistently stands out: his humility. This, above all, is the value that I look upon as a good lesson to reiterate time and time again."

* * *

CESAR MONTANO: "My father told me only for guys are just the exact amount of money he my have in school. He said, 'The easiest way to make life difficult for your children is to make it easy for them.' I need to hate that. My kid owes a lawyer. When he passed on, he left an material things for me but I've realized that his words have helped me in everything I did. I still drive from Tarlac there's no doubt in I value my own kids."

* * *

LANI MISALUCHA: "They say I'm like my Dad cause I communicate well and I can make people laugh. I'm particularly proud that I've inherit from the Annual Rites during my formative years so he could take care of me and Mom. He was my mentor, best friend and MVP. I hate him with much, he passed away in 1998.

Forgiving actress

Cherry Pie Picache is over their willing to forgive Ramon Gutierrez against whom she earlier filed a formal complaint for pinging her on the net. "I'm glad he's in rehab," she says. "I'm also happy to hear that he wanted to apologize to me." Is she also willing to work with Baron again? "Why a good actor," she says. "As long as he behaves and treats me shouldn't have a problem."

Speaking of work, the Divas actress of the Decade is proud of her latest as she film, "Asia," inspired by a human years ago in our mom's program, "Eye to Eye," about a woman who gave birth to a monkey. Pilar shares Pie's own motherhood secret? "My son Neyo is wanting to ask about the birds and the bees," she reveals. "I don't suppose my answers because I want him to grow up as a coward. I am a disciplinarian, but I don't spank my kid because I believe that the hands used for caressing should not be used for spanking."

Now in her relationship with her ex Neyo's dad? "He's no alcoholic anymore," Pie explains. "We have an unusual setup because we still see each other daily which is good for our son's well being." Doesn't she yearn for a lifetime partner to share her achievements with? "God has blessed me with so much," she says, beaming. "I don't need ask for more. But if Mr. Right comes along, I'm willing to turn my back on show biz. If necessary."

Even with a missing piece in her Pie, life still always be a bowl of Cherries for the actress because of her joie de vivre which she spreads on generosity.

Gems's tweet

Richard Gomez's tweet catched me up: "Neighbor no movie of **Manny Pacquiao**. Glad to be making soap but

room starring at **Sharmaine Arnaiz**.

President's got the movies in the living sing while Mommy D has the process on the dinner. Sen. Gordo's fab with Lucy might teach Mommy D more flavors than.

E-mail: mariel.padilla@abs-cbn.com

Get facts straight; I don't cancel shows–Jed Madela

By Mariel R. Cruz

"GET your facts straight."

This was Jed Madela's response to his detractors on the notion that he canceled a recent mall show in Tagaig City allegedly because his demands were not met.

"I've been in this business for a long time. I still not let this one incident destroy my name," he told the buzzmen on Wednesday.

The 29-year-old pochanoan recording artist and TV host was referring to the June 5 launch of the new SPM Lounge in the Market Mall mall where the singer was unable to perform due to technical problems.

Broken keyboard

Madela reportedly complained of a broken keyboard, which caused him to refuse to go on stage.

The world singing champ recalled that the event organizers informed him of the problem the keyboard at 2 p.m. They promised to look for a replacement. The show was supposed to start at 5 p.m.

"8:30 p.m. they came to me to say they got nothing. I thought, That is impossible. They organize events but don't they have contacts?" Had I known they wouldn't be able to get one, I would have called some people to help," he said.

Madela refused that he was then scheduled to go on and perform, accompanied instead by a minus-one disc. "I told I can't do that because the organizers asked me to learn new songs just for the show. There's no minus-one for those."

At this point, Madela asked his backup musicians if it was possible to simply substitute the keyboard with a guitar. "They said it was. Oh, but when the time came, my guy is not up, because the other equipment were being distributed). They were told that the event was already finished."

Madela insisted that it was the organizers—not him—who canceled the show. "I wanted until 8 p.m. until I saw that people were already leaving," he explained. "Why is the minor that I walked out of the show coming out now? They're also telling everybody that I simply refused to sing with a minus-one."

He also reached to many comments on Twitter about the incident. "I read something like 'Sure your P200,000. Do not hire Jed Madela in your corporate shows.... ako nalang kaya. Pls. call Jed (here's a bad name)."

He explained: "Most people are already lying to their friend. I didn't ask that much talent fee for the show. They're overpaying. The industry is so small. People will find out what really happened."

Talent threats organizer of the Market Market event, said it would soon come out with an official statement on the incident.

Another rumor

Meanwhile, Madela also clarified the rumor that there was friction between him and fellow Universal Records artist Christian Bautista.

"I don't know why people want Christian and I to fight. I'm like best going on even when Christian was still with Viva Music. I guess it's because we're both balladeers," Madela said. "When Christian introduced to Universal, people said for years a threat to us, that I used to be the only balladeer in Universal and now the studio is too focused on promoting Christian as balladeer."

Madela last flew to Indonesia in 2004 because of that country's phenomenal reception to his single "The Way You Look at Me." Since then, he has continued to fly overseas to perform in concerts, endorse products and appear on TV shows.

Madela last made waves at the 2005 World Championship of the Performing Arts (WCOPA) in Hollywood, California, where he won a lifetime award, recording the title home-based Grand Champion Performers of the World. That same year, he joined the Sunday variety show "ASAP" on ABS-CBN. He has released seven albums since 2002.

People are obviously lining to start a fire out of nothing," Madela said. "Christian has made his presence felt in Indonesia with his songs. I'm slowly going out to try, starting with Malaysia. Universal doesn't want to relate to clash."

He told reporters that he has already recorded a song, "Sumo Sim" (Sumo Sim)," with Malaysian singer Siti Nurhaliz and is set to fly to the former British colony next week. The single is based on Ogie Alcasid's "Sinungaling Mo" and was re-titled in Bahasa.

He is also set to release in Malaysia a whole album with the same title. "It's a compilation of my greatest hits. A lot of successful singers are with Universal," he pointed out, citing Regine Velasquez, Ogie Alcasid, Lea Salonga, Lani Misalucha, young singers Jay R, Billy Crawford and Rico as examples. "We help each other in many ways. I embrace among colleagues is kind."

Buzz on gigs starts online

By Podiko Cancipcion

TERMINUS concert crowd rely on the latest, not to check out the buzz on who's coming later to perform. Most often than not, news of artists' back-to-back performance dates are from unannounced online.

That's how it happened for the recent gig of Irish band The Script at the Araneta Coliseum. Weeks before the show, tickets were sold out mainly through ticket exchange of information on the concert's Facebook page.

In the case of Miley Cyrus' show set June 17 at the SM Mall of Asia open grounds, a multi-media (TV, radio, news, paper and the Net) campaign is ongoing. Ad blitz, an event's promotional team focused on giving away free tickets, since there are big sponsors and the venue is so huge that promoters could afford to hand out freebies.

But the choice of the gig's fans are now decided solely online, promoters said. A survey was posted on the Net, asking fans who they would like to open Cyrus' MOA concert.

The two names on top of the list, Sam Concepcion and Elmo Magalona, will perform on the show.

Issa. To add excitement to the event, there will be a "showdown" onstage where Concepcion and Magalona will demonstrate their respective talents. Cyrus will decide who deserves her special attention.

It's all a gimmick, of course, to please the crowd, admitted Cathy Gaughan, an officer of concert promoter Frontstreet Inc.

The Gaddis, both Concepcion and Magalona